

THE  
**SCOURGE.**

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FEBRUARY 1, 1811.

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**SIR GODFREY WEBSTER.**

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**I**F to “know one’s self” be a mark of wisdom, and self-knowledge be most decisively indicated by addiction to those pursuits for which we are best qualified by nature, the Jehus of the day may claim our reverence as the sagest of human beings. That they are entitled indeed to other distinctions than those which are conferred on mere intellectual superiority, the scanty but interesting memoirs of Sir Godfrey Webster afford the most unequivocal testimony; to a man who prefers the conversation of grooms to the society of princes, and feels as much interest in the health of his dog, as in that of a mother or a sister, the praise of meekness and humanity cannot be denied: from him who lavishes his fortune on the most worthless objects, and sacrifices all the enjoyments that are the usual attendants on rank and riches, to the pursuit of vulgar pleasures and joyless debauchery, we cannot withhold the ascription of generous magnanimity.

The death of Sir Godfrey’s father at Brighton, the subsequent marriage of Lady Webster to her seducer Lord H——, and the other circumstances connected with what

is usually called the *private* history of his family, are too notorious to require any further exposition. We feel no pleasure in raking the ashes of the dead to gratify the malignity of the living: the unfortunate husband of Miss V——, was, with all his follies and eccentricities, “a man whose faults might well be forgiven for his virtues;” to satirize *his* extravagances of conduct would be to wound the feelings of his descendants gratuitously; but the example of the son may obtain some influence in society: of *his* aberrations from the path of decency or common sense, there will be many imitators and admirers; and it is not yet too late to admonish Sir Godfrey of his errors, or to enable his youthful companions to discriminate between fashion and notoriety.

There is no mistake so prevalent as that of supposing the habits of a few, who render themselves notorious by their eccentricity, to be those of the class of society in which their birth or their fortune may enable them to move. If we were to derive our knowledge of the world from reading the essays of our satirists, or listening to the clap-traps of our dramatic authors, we might take it for granted that no young man could aspire to distinction in the fashionable circles, without being a member of the Whips and sporting an *upper Benjamin*. But the truth is that whatever respect may be shewn to a Buxton, or a Webster, is paid rather to his wealth, or his connections, than to his manners: such men are only spoken of to be ridiculed; while politeness and good sense will, even in the present age of “depravity,” bear away the smiles of beauty, and command the suffrage of the arbiters of fashion.

Even at the first theatre of Sir Godfrey’s dissipation, though vice and ignorance may gain an occasional and inglorious triumph over reason and discipline, learning and virtue are the standards of estimation among those classes of students who visit the university merely as a school of preparation for active life. Of those who look forward to hereditary honours and possessions, the ma-

jority stand aloof from any association with the Varments and the Whips: the men who really enlist under the banners of a Peyton, or share the honours of his notoriety, are young men of confined fortune, mean abilities, and narrow education; and who, if the tables of university precedency were accurately arranged, would be found in the fourth rank of gentility.

The career of Sir Godfrey at Cambridge was neither creditable to the college of which he was a member, nor to himself. His mode of dissipating time, and defying the statutes to which he had sworn obedience, was in the true style of university buckism. The regulations of college command every student to attend chapel at least eight times in the week, and Sir Godfrey therefore did not attend at all: absence from lectures and appearance in the public streets in any other than the academical dress, are strictly forbidden, and he therefore took care to be seen parading the market place, or driving through the town in his Varment dress, just as the clock announced the hour of attendance at the lecture room; to dine at a tavern is an act of extraordinary irregularity, and he was generally at the Rose or the Hoop about half-past three.

The life of a dashing Cambridge student is rather enviable for its independence than felicity. About half-past nine he rises with a devil of a head-ache; at half-past ten, if he do not think proper to pass the lecture-room window in his shooting jacket, he cannot refrain at least from sporting his great coat, and hiring a hack at Barron's, which he just gallops a short way along the Trumpington road, that if any of the old dons be taking their morning walk, they may admire his spirit and wonder at his agility. About one he moves off to Lichfield's, and after eating as much pastry as would satisfy a dozen Bond-street loungers, returns to his rooms, and contrives by four o'clock to arrange his cravat; after dinner he either has a wine party, and gets hellishly cut, or sets off in a tandem to Bolshom.

In the former case he staggers out about half an hour before the gates are shut: rambles about the streets in search of a *piece*, kicks up a row with the townsmen, rushes into Frank Smith's Coffee-house, tells a long story about his father's dogs in a tone so loud that all conversation is at an end, meets with three or four friends as much done over as himself, who pay a visit to Simeon, and blow up the whole congregation, break half a dozen lamps, wrench off half a dozen knockers, and stagger into college just in time to escape the penalty of sleeping out of gates.

This is the *hum drum* routine of term time. The joyful intervals of vacation afford ampler scope to a *dasher's* enterprising spirit.

From the middle of December to the beginning of February a true-bred Cantab is in his highest glory; during that period he may share the honours of Jehuism with Hell-fire Dick, and may drive Suky Reeves to Huntingdon in three quarters of an hour, without being under the necessity of returning before the next morning. To a man of fortune like Sir Godfrey, such pursuits as these may be productive of more pleasure than uneasiness; but the majority of his companions are seduced by his example into expences that they are unable to discharge, and of which it is only possible to evade the payment by leaving the university; and the few whose allowance at college enables them to rival their leader in temporary extravagance, are found on the examination for degrees to deserve a plucking, or at any rate to be unworthy of those honours on the acquisition of which their friends had rested their expectations of their advancement in life.

But Sir Godfrey is chiefly distinguished as the actual though not the nominal founder of a society from which the Four-in-hand and the Whips have borrowed their language and costume. He was the first student who introduced into the university of Cambridge the lilly shallow hat, and the tallyho buttons; to his ingenuity

we are indebted for the whiskers *a la rigmarole*, and for the elegant appellation of *Varment*, by which the collective body of Cambridge Jehus were so classically designated. As the rise and progress of the barouche and stage-driving mania will hereafter become the subject of historical disquisition, and as we are anxious to contribute as much as lays within our power to an accurate delineation of the features and manners of the age, we hope that the modesty of Sir Godfrey will not be alarmed if we detail the qualifications of which he was himself the standard. We are too well acquainted indeed with his merits as one of the *Varmenti*, not to be conscious that to delineate his portrait would be to describe the character exactly as it should be; but we wish not to be accused of flattery, and shall characterise them in their own language.

The first of the important documents that we have selected is the table of resolutions hung above the chimney-piece of Sir Godfrey's study; from it we are able to collect that grammar is by no means a necessary ornament of the *Varmenti's* literary compositions.

Resolutions of the *Varments* club held at the Crown at Royston last Tuesday\*, about and upon the way of keeping us together, whereby we may have due harmony and propriety, seeing that there should be among gentlemen nothing but proper decorum and decency;

SIR GODFREY WEBSTER in the Chair.

“Resolved, 1. *Unanimously*, (15 against 9, some gentlemen thinking blue better for a waistcoat,) that the dress of the *Varments* be a drab great coat, with buttons with tallyho *written* on them, whereby we may know one another, and other people may know that we know how to “*sing away tantivy*,” though we don't deal quite so much in that sort of thing as in scamping it along four-in-hand. Red waistcoats agreed on, because it looks

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\* N.B. The table is without date.

hellish *flaming*, and Lord T. saying that bucks should be *bright*. Whiskers to scrub up pieces should be *scrubby*. Crisp thinks own hair stuffed better than wigs, therefore agreed to; fore-head hair to come about with circum-bendibus, and meet whiskers, but referred for exact to Crisp, or look at the chairman's face. Hat eight inches in the brim, two inches deep and Quakerish, but for this to look at president's.

"Resolution 2d. That we being all jolly, and quite the go being the thing, do resolve that we do not care a *damn* for our tutors, seeing that they dabble in X Y's, and are all one as quizzes to we Varments. Besides, how should we know any thing about their P's and Q's, or them any thing about ours, any more than nothing at all: resolved, therefore, that Cotton may go to hell, and Mansell after him.

"Resolution 3d. Resolved, that Hell-fire Dick is a devilish good fellow, and next bet, about whether Sophy Cotton be got out of Spinning house, be given to him; and moreover he is desired whenever the members of this honourable society drive his coach to take all the six-pences himself; as we are sure that he would trust to our honour, but we must look after the tits.

"Resolution 4th. As we are, as was before said, all jolly fellows, we wish to keep out all the quizzers, and the bores, and therefore resolved that that d——d son of a goose, *Trafalgar* of Christ's, who has no more spirit than one of my shoes, shan't be admitted, and also the same about Stephens of Trinity Hall, who has the impudence to cram and drive all one, just as if we did not know it can't be; and that our worthy president having been grossly insulted, and this society, and all of us, and blackguarded by Clarke of Emanuel, saying how that learning and virtue were better than drunkenness and ignoramusses, our said worthy president be desired to call at his rooms, and horsewhip him, or if the fellow be in London to do it the next time he drives there the Telegraph; and that for fear he should not find where

he lives a letter be written by this society, to be sent in the name of Sir Godfrey as soon as possible.

“ Resolution *the last*. Resolved, that all about the club remain except about dress as last year, and resolved also that Walker of Peterhouse having gone on stilts nine miles in two hours, which is a great thing, one's feet being three feet from the ground, be asked to join us, expence being no object, ten thousand pounds and ten being all the same to him; and resolved also that this society's wrandowvwo be left to Dick, and moreover resolved that the thanks of this society be given to our chairman, and besides it is resolved that this society are all sworn friends.”

W——r.

P——n.

A—t—nt.

C——k.

B——e.

V—r M—n.

M'—na—ra.

T—st—ck.

L—th—or,

&c. &c. &c.

We have been favoured with a copy of the letter sent to Mr. Clarke, and present it to our readers, in the hope of its affording them the most lively gratification.

“ Sir,

“ Understanding (as Shakespeare says,) that you have said about us things that deserve whatever any reasonable man can think, about the line of conduct, which indeed extraordinary as it is, no one can say how much the injury diverges from that point at which, if ever it should stand on the principle when honour is insulted, I think really that it will be seen when I declare that your infamous and being works, saying as if we were all fools, and being nothing of the kind, you really deserve a horsewhipping. I assure you that you have reason to be afraid, you *little puppy*, for you know that I am two feet higher than any lamp pounder in your coledge. Besides Altamont thinks so.

“ It only remains to say, that you cannot expect, seeing what you have done, that I shall restrain from exerting my menisses wherever I meet you, so would have you prepare yourself, which is only right in a gentleman, and a man of his word, as

I am,

SIR GODFREY WEBSTER.”

H. C. Esq. Em——l College,

—— Street, Strand.

It is impossible to persuade a collegian who aspires to the reputation of buckism, that ferocity is different from manliness, or frankness from vulgarity. Ease of manner is not the natural characteristic of the English nation, and to acquire the outre peculiarities of whippism, is within the power of any man who will descend to imitation. In the present state of society, that mode of address is the most gentlemanly which has the least of mannerism, and which expresses the character of the individual, its asperities polished by collision. But in the manner of those who mistake the dashing for the elegant or the fashionable there is no *character*: and the monotony of their habits extends even to their conversation. You may be for hours in the society of the Whip Club, with as much feeling of individual preference, as between the letters of the alphabet. Nor are the peculiarities they affect less easy in their acquirement, than unfavourable in their impression. A ferocious stare, a sluggish negligence of attitude, and an awkwardness of gait, a mincing drawl, or boisterous vehemence of speech, a vulgar phraseology, interlarded with the pickpocket slang from Grose's Dictionary, are eccentricities and acquisitions within the compass of any man's abilities.

It would be fortunate if habits like those we have described could be forgotten as easily as they are acquired; but the Varment manner has accompanied Sir Godfrey from the college to the camp, and from the camp to the theatre. After leaving Cambridge, he purchased a commission in a regiment of Dragoons, but the uniform was a desperate inconvenience. His last effort at notoriety was at the Opera House, where he was admitted to be a *devilish* clever hand at *kicking up a row*. In the late dispute he has not interfered, and we therefore suppose that he is *laying by* till the spring meeting at Newmarket, when he intends to astonish the knowing ones by a race of *Buffaloes* to be ridden the one by Sir Harry Peyton, and the other

by himself. The match is for a thousand guineas, and the amateurs promise themselves more than usual gratification.

The following letter, however, from J. P——, Esq. to Lord H. will afford a more perfect illustration of his character than any observations of our own.

“DEAR ——

“You know our old friend Sir Godfrey : after dashing away at a hell of a rate, and getting through, I suppose, about three times as much as he was worth, the old lady his grandmother has at last kick'd the bucket, and he now sports it to the tune of ten thousand a year. What do you think of that, my old boy ! I suppose he'll now get tired of the old pieces that he used to drive down to the Abbey from Mother Griffiths's : he seems to have a sneaking kindness to Miss Giroux of the Surrey Theatre, and we may soon expect to have a wedding *a la Murray*. Strange that a well turned ancle and lascivious *motus Ionici* should thus set off an empty mind and cadaverous countenance. I hear that Signora Collini, who fancied last season that her Italian graces had enthralled him, and whose *airs* on the occasion were in the true style of operatic grandeur, is likely to pull caps with the little favourites of Elliston. Sir Godfrey is very facetious on these reports, and talks something about Signora Collini's qualifications for a *shake* not being equal to Miss Giroux's for the pillow-dance, but I do not comprehend his meaning.

“You and I used to wonder where he had got to after his sudden disappearance, would you believe it, he has been a warrior ; he bought a commission and went abroad. Not having any occasion to display his prowess Sir Godfrey alone returned with the trophies of irresistible valour carefully enclosed in a mahogany case and kept under lock and key : till on the 25th day of October 1810, a day of jubilee, a circular letter requested the attendance of his friends to witness the production of this testimonial of bravery. My language rises with my subject ! Curiosity prompted us to attend : impatiently we devoured the feast before us, with anxiety we waited the bibulation of his Majesty's longevity ; when behold ! the casket is produced, the company await in breathless expectation the appearance of its contents, and Sir Godfrey, with an air indicative at once of conscious valour and native modesty, produced from out of its repository the *cranium* of a trumpeter.

“Of a trumpeter !” say you, “how the devil do you know that it is the skull of a trumpeter ?” who ever heard before of an officer fleshing his sword on a miserable straggler from the band ?” We all know Sir Godfrey : he has often told us that he would not draw on any one beneath the rank of a General of Division. “The name of Webster shall not (he has exclaimed) be disgraced by personal conflict with

any meaner hero than a Lefebvre or a Massena!" But strange as it may seem, we were assured that this was the scull of a trumpeter by no less authority than that of our friend himself. He produced a rim that he at first intended for the edge of the scull, on which was inscribed, "*Cranium Trumpeteris in Militia contra Gallicas abtinetur per Godfreius Websterius Bs.*" but W—— thinking the Latin not quite correct, we had the honour of drinking to Sir Godfrey's health out of this unadorned drinking cup, which is now his daily companion at table. The best of it is that a fellow who now lives with him, having been discharged from the regiment on the score of rupture, tells a quizzical kind of story about watching his master into the scene of a skirmish on the preceding day, and seeing him make one of the dead bodies shorter by the head, and then bear it off in triumph, they afterwards dissected it between them.

"We shall have fine sport at Newmarket. Sir Godfrey rides his own Buffalo against ———. If the matrimonial affair be concluded in the mean time, he must take care that he be not among the horned animals himself. I have sent you one of the best things I have been able to pick up on the subject of the scull.

"Love to Mother Wood. Do you ever pay a visit to Mrs. Clarke, 58, Tichfield-street. Had a dear delightful confab with her namesake yesterday. Is Bruce an Irishman? But *old Snuffy* is coming, so good bye."

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#### SIR GODFREY'S FEAST.\*

##### XI.

Declined the day, St. Martin's tower  
Proclaimed of five the jovial hour  
When Whips and lordlings dine :  
With cloth of white the table spread,  
Tureen'd mock turtle graced its head,  
And of fat pork, by Harvey fed,  
The bottom bore a chine.

##### XII.

Who knows not Barnet's ancient town,  
The Lion Red of high renown,  
Left of the broad highway,  
From windows three, its prospect wide,  
Of hedge-row, and the kennell's side,  
Cross which the staling stallions stride,  
And dabbling ducklings play ?

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\* This precious morceau, is ascribed to the Hon. S. S.

XIII.

'Twas here in room yeapt the long,  
Where Munden's joke and Dibdin's song  
The wintry night has cheer'd,  
Sir Godfrey of his prize elate,  
Fill'd with his port, the chair of state  
And nought of choaking feared.

XIV.

Tall was his heighth, full six feet two,  
To beat a pigmy black and blue  
An easy task he found:  
His coal-black wig, and whiskers grim,  
His forward tusks, his square set limb,  
His scowling glance around,  
Shew'd what the curious eye might find,  
His waistcoat red, with bear-skin lin'd,  
An emblem proper of his mind.  
Beside his chair pale Peyton press'd,  
By all the Jehu tribe caressed,  
Of Deacons now the pride:  
Favourite of heaven! When priest, no more  
To Whippish excellence he'll soar,  
Nor on the coach-box ride,  
A Rectory of income clear,  
About nine thousand pounds a year  
Awaits till he of age appear,

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Hush'd was each sound, save when the voice  
Of whispering guest demands a slice,  
Or gentle accent, sweet to hear,  
Prays for a cup of table beer.  
Gently the knife was clash'd, for he  
Who keeps not Whip society  
Knows not with how much gust they feel  
The comforts of a dainty meal.  
At length when oft and oft supplied,  
The hungry guests were satisfied;  
Murmurs arose, of mirth the sign.  
"Take with me, pray, a glass of wine,"  
Goes round the board, and bow to bow,  
Declares *good fellowship is now*.  
At length the cloth is clear'd, the chair  
Commands to fill a bumper fair,

And each good whip his rights defend  
 In drinking to his ancient friend.  
 But soon a nobler subject fir'd  
 The hero's breast, at once inspired,  
 He waves his hand on high,  
 Fix'd was each look and mute each tongue,  
 As though upon his accents hung  
 Of worlds the destiny.  
 At length while swelled his soul with pleasure,  
 And op'd his hand the box of treasure,  
 In words sonorous, apt and true,  
 Such as become the lips of few,  
 He cried, " my friends admiring see !  
 " THE GLORIOUS PRIZE OF BRAVERY ! "

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THE HOST, (Sir Godfrey's) SONG.

My whip and my bottle I like very well,  
 My glass and my mistress also,  
 Likewise I am fond, if the truth I must tell,  
 Of driving : Ye hip : Ge ho !  
 Yet I never had half the delight in a strum,  
 Nor pleasure at all in a drive ;  
 Compared with what's about to come,  
 My friends ! as I'm alive.  
 D'ye know I went to Portugal,  
 Of courage wondrous full :  
 And here I am to drink to ye all,  
 Out of a trumpeter's scull.  
 Why ! Hell-fire Dick admires it,  
 And that's enough for me :  
 So while it all inspires us  
 Let's drink till we can't see !  
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 With wonder heard the revel crowd,  
 His verse so smooth, his tone so loud !  
 In chorus joined with mirthful glee  
 They sung " Let's drink till we can't see ! "  
 Till as the strain subsides they join  
 In cries of " Damn me ! Hellish fine,"  
 " Bang up ! " exclaims Buxtonian Bill,  
 " Bang up ! " replies Peytonian Phill,  
 Till prime with port the chairman's form extends,  
 And great Sir Godfrey's glimmering glory ends.

The pursuits of the sportsman or the whip, when enjoyed with moderation, are of all others the best adapted to the activity of youth, and best calculated to invigorate the frame, and exercise without fatiguing the intellectual faculties: but when they are made the exclusive objects of juvenile ambition; when for the mere pleasure of their indulgence all the duties of life, and all the acquisitions by which the man of education is prepared for a maturity of enjoyment, and an old age of dignity, are neglected and forgotten, it is impossible to condemn the justice or benevolence of the satirist who would warn the votaries of pleasure or notoriety against errors so nuisable, and follies so deplorable.

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### MRS. MARY ANNE CLARKE.

**I**F there be any truth in which the deductions of the reasoner, and the experience of the libertine coincide, it is that the woman who has once bartered the possession of her person for a pecuniary equivalent is destitute of every virtue, and capable of any form or enormity of wickedness. The barriers of habit, of custom, and of precept by which chastity is secured are so minute, so numerous, and so powerful; the importance of sexual purity to the happiness of a female, are so strikingly and perpetually enforced by the manners, the language, and the conduct of those in whose society she advances to maturity, or to whom she is accustomed to look up with reverence, and the homage that is paid to virtue is so observable in the daily intercourse of society, that the woman who can even in a moment of passion forget the associations of idea by which impurity is

synonymous with ruin, or levity with guilt, unless under circumstances of long, assiduous, and delusive attentions from the author of her misery, must possess a mind of innate depravity, or a bosom of more than human sensibility. When it is remembered that from her infant years a female is taught to shun the attentions of the other sex with sensitive timidity, and to regard her honour as coexistent with her being, that as she grows up she has the power of observing the inseparable boundary that divides the virtuous from the fallen, and that the customs of social intercourse are in a great measure directed by the principle of feminine caution against the arts of debauchery, and the seductions of opportunity, it will be difficult to determine what degree of temptation can palliate the surrender of what has been cultivated with so much anxiety, and prized at a rate so valuable, to the momentary impulse of voluptuous desire.

But even after so great a sacrifice, there may remain the natural and constitutional virtues of the female character. A woman may be susceptible of gratitude, of tenderness and shame, when she no longer possesses the self-consciousness of personal respect. There is something delusive to the female imagination in every thing that can be embellished with the name of love: the fancy is busy in forming excuses for error and palliatives of dishonour; and she whom indiscretion has hurried beyond the bounds of virtue, persuades herself that the guilt is not her own, or that she only yielded to temptations which it was impossible for her sex's frailty to resist. She remembers the delights of voluptuous pleasure, and forgets the price at which they were enjoyed; she magnifies the strength of her resistance, and persuades herself that her womanhood, rather than her personal wishes seduced her to consent. She has some remaining feeling of personal honour to cherish, and some degree of private esteem

and public respectability to preserve. But when a woman has once sold her embraces for a price, all sense of dignity, all feeling of virtue flies with the commission of the crime: it is a plain overt act of degradation, unsusceptible of delusive embellishment, or ingenious palliation; the woman who has committed it can do nothing that shall degrade her to a lower degree in the estimation of society, and she therefore bids a secret, but eternal farewell, to every sexual and every human virtue.

This is the *natural* result of prostitution, though the progress of a female to the last stage of moral infamy may be retarded by any circumstances that revive the social affections, and open a transient view of reestablishment in society. But jealousy, and revenge, and desperation accelerate the final ruin of the unfortunate victims of profligacy; those who are already beyond the hope of restoration enjoy a malignant pleasure in reducing their new or less depraved companion to the same misery as themselves. That necessity which was their first excuse for prostitution, aggravates the tortures of conscience and the gloom of despair; drunkenness adds fury to disease, and illumined only by gleams of meretricious joy, the scene of life is past in all the wretchedness of cheerless iniquity.

We must confess, therefore, that we regard the detail of Mrs. Clarke's private history as of more consequence in examining the great question that so lately agitated the political world, than many of the gentlemen who conscientiously confided in her veracity are willing to admit. What is there to restrain an acknowledged prostitute from telling as many lies or forging as many letters as will suit her purposes? She cannot be restrained by moral or religious principles, for she is already an adulteress; she cannot be withheld by an unwillingness to degrade her character, for her character is already lost. It is an act of justice, therefore, in our subsequent observations on the cases of the Duke of York and Mr. War-

dle, to admit no statement or conclusions of Mrs. Clarke's, and to receive none of her documents as genuine unless authenticated by corroborative evidence. Mrs. Clarke was born at Oxford on the 27th of June, 1771. Her father, Mr. Thompson, was a petty stationer, and her mother had been in the early part of her life the companion of a young lady who some time afterwards became notorious as the *chere amie* of Lord Cornwallis. When about seven years of age her mother was married to a Mr. Farquhar, a journeyman printer, who worked at Mr. Hughes's printing-office in Turnstile, of which a Mr. Day was overseer. This gentleman's son had many opportunities of observing the person and disposition of Miss Thompson, as she came with messages, or on business to her father: his attachment to her increased with the expansion of her form, and when she arrived at the age of puberty he proposed to her father and herself to take the charge of her education, if he might indulge a hope that his pecuniary advancements and his anxiety for her welfare might ultimately be rewarded by the acceptance of his honourable proposals. It was not the interest of the parent nor the inclination of the daughter to refuse compliance; and Miss Thompson was therefore sent to a boarding-school, where she past the next two years, and where, as is usual at these seminaries, her person was improved while her morals were corrupted. At one of the Christmas vacations she became acquainted with Mr. Clarke the son of a builder on Snow Hill. He is a man of low habits, contemptible understanding, and vulgar manners: but there was nothing enchanting to the ideas of Miss Thompson in dull, unvaried, matrimonial love; the ties of gratitude and the restraints of prudence were equally forgotten in the warmth of licentious passion; and a few days before the cares and generosity of Mr. Day were to be rewarded by their union at the altar, she flew on the wings of lascivious ardor into the arms of her gallant.

The step that she had taken was irrevocable, she

knew that she was now dependant solely on the constancy of her paramour, and inclination probably coinciding with interest, her conduct not only during the honeymoon of meretricious enjoyment, when he supported her with comfort in elegant lodgings at Pentonville, but after the disarrangement of his affairs had rendered penury familiar to their view, was exemplary and affectionate. Penetrated with gratitude and assured of her fidelity, as soon as a hope presented itself of extrication from his distresses, he made her the legal partner of his fortunes. Scarcely had the ceremony been performed before he discovered that his expectations were fallacious: disappointment hurried him to intemperance, and intemperance was productive of infidelity. The suspicions of his wife were as natural as they were correct: disease confirmed the justice of her distrust; the desire of revenge succeeded the warmth of insulted fondness, and in a little month after the first interruption of their conjugal felicity Mrs. Clarke enjoyed a pleasure which Mrs. Billington declares to be of all others the most exquisite, ihren man zum Hahnrei zu machen.

The fortunate instrument of a gratification so virtuous was a Captain H. whose mother kept a private mad-house at Hackney, and whose brother is now the porter to a college at Cambridge. After about a few weeks possession he deserted her, and this future darling of princes, and arbitress of military fortune, was for a considerable period the most neglected prostitute in the most miserable brothel adjacent to Temple-bar.

Of her pretended connection with a pawnbroker in Golden-lane,—a connection supposed to have been formed during her frequent visits to supp'y the distresses of her parents, there is no certain evidence on record; and we believe that the stories related of her husband's connivance at her endeavours to seduce a second possessor of the shop subsequent to his family's removal from a respectable establishment at Hoxton, and at the com-

mencement of his embarrassments to be perfectly unauthorised. The elopement of our heroine with Captain H. must have taken place about the year 1798 ; but that in the subsequent year she obtained the protection of a titled barrister, with whom she spent six months in Wiltshire is more than doubtful ; and that either Sir Charles Milner, Sir James Brudenell, Lord Barrymore, Lord Grosvenor, or any other of the personages who have been introduced to the notice of the public as her protectors, ever formed with her more than a casual connection we have only her own responsibility for believing. The truth is, that till her acquaintance with Mr. Dowler, the stock-broker, " she was every one's by turns, and no one's long." Even the army agents whose names have been so frequently mentioned were only *rapt to extacy* by her casual embraces. Mr. Cobbett is willing to suppose that on the memorable night of Mr. Dowler's return from Portugal, Mrs. Clarke had flown from the insipidity of princely fondness to more congenial dalliance with youth, and tenderness, and spirit. But Mr. Dowler had other qualities to recommend him than his personal or mental endowments : he was generous to profusion ; at the beginning of their intercourse she had only to hint her wishes, and they were gratified ; and during her residence at Gloucester-place the sums that he secretly conveyed to her through the medium of her sister Mrs. Favory who lived with her as a servant, exceeded the *stipulated* allowance from her avowed protector. It was to his kindness probably that she was indebted for the house in Park-lane, where she was first introduced to the Duke of York. But business must be attended to, and Mr. Dowler seems not to have felt that delicacy of attachment which revolts at participation in the favours of a beloved mistress. While he was raising the wind, therefore, in Change-alley, the object of his sensual affection was luxuriating in all the delights of Brighton, and indulging her natural inclination for variety. It was here that the

Duke in one of his unguarded moments casually *rencontred* Miss Herbert, a lady of the Cyprian corps, who shared the conveniences and expences of Mrs. Clarke's apartments. If the virgin was most beautiful the pretended widow was more fascinating. His Royal Highness supped that evening with the former, but his future assignations were made with Mrs. Clarke, who practised her usual artifices of allurements with so much success that on her return to Park-lane she had the honour of receiving him as a constant visitor. Their intercourse at that place was more frequently interrupted by the visits of her old but casual acquaintances, Messrs. Ogilvie, Murray, &c. than suited the commander in chief's pleasure or convenience; and at the beginning of April 1804, the danger of intrusion on their hours of amorous dalliance was prevented by Mrs. Clarke's removal to Gloucester-place.

It is impossible not to observe *in limine* that the formation of this establishment was an act of the most thoughtless indiscretion. At this very period his Royal Highness was involved in almost inextricable embarrassments; even the thousand pounds per annum, was a sum that he could not advance without subjecting himself to many mortifying difficulties; the lease of the house was in all likelihood purchased by the friendly intervention of a money-lender, and when the first articles of expensive furniture met his eye, it must have impressed him with the conviction that their value was disproportionate to her annual allowance, or to the extent of his pecuniary resources. If Mrs. Clarke purchased the first few articles of furniture without his knowledge, it was at least in his power to remonstrate against similar extravagance; he knew that she could not pay for them herself, and when he looked at the mirrors, or examined the wine-glasses, it was impossible for him not to be alarmed at the scale of expence, on which the whole establishment was formed. Even supposing that he was so infatuated by his fondness, as to be incapable of denying her any bauble, that could gratify her

taste for external splendor, the same reason cannot be advanced for his repeated acceptance of her invitation to expensive dinners, and his permission that two or three French cooks should be employed in their preparation. It is difficult to estimate the exact expence of the whole establishment, but supposing that the articles of furniture might sell at the end of two years for one third of their original price, and that their whole cost was twelve thousand pounds, at a moderate calculation, there remains an annual expenditure, for furniture alone of four thousand pounds. We may be able from this, and other data, therefore, to form a probable estimate of the yearly expence, for the two years of her residence in Gloucester-place.\*

## ANNUAL EXPENCE.

	£.	s.	d.
Furniture . . . . .	4,000	0	0
Three carriages, keep of eight horses, and expences of wear and tear . . . . .	500	0	0
Three men cooks, three times a week, at one guinea a day	490	0	0
Wine . . . . .	400	0	0
Liquors . . . . .	100	0	0
Rent . . . . .	600	0	0
Milliners' bills . . . . .	800	0	0
Travelling expences . . . . .	100	0	0
Fires . . . . .	57	0	0
Wages, &c. of two butlers, three footmen, one porter, one valet, one chairman, one housekeeper, two chambermaids, one lady's maid, one scullion boy, two cooks, one housemaid, one groom, one postil- lion, and one coachman . . . . .	1,150	0	0
Pocket expences for theatres, masquerade dresses, TRINKETS, and acts of benevolence . . . . .	700	0	0
Books . . . . .	50	0	0
Gratuities of various kinds to bearers of billetsdoux, per- sons employed in satisfying uncivil tradesmen, &c. . . . .	170	0	0
Annual expences in London . . . . .	£9,117	0	0

\* She resided in Gloucester-place somewhat more than two years, but some part of the time was after the separation, and the articles of furniture came in at different times.

Expences at Weybridge, where she had a house, while  
her town residence was in Gloucester-place,

Furniture	8,000	0	0	
Deduct price allowed by Broker	1,870	0	0	
	6,130	0	0	one half of which, is 3,065 0 0
Rent		273	0	0
Taxes		45	0	0
Housekeeper, housemaid, and groom, &c.		130	0	0
Incidental expences during her visits, such as extra fires, &c. &c. wine, &c. to be sent for from Gloucester-place		80	0	0
		<u>£3,593</u>	0	0

Considering this scale of expence, the rank of her  
visitors, the number of her entertainments, &c. &c.  
we cannot reckon the mere eating and drinking ex-  
pences, exclusive of wine, lights, cards, music, &c.  
&c. at less than twenty guineas a day . 7,300 0 0

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£20,010 0 0

That our calculation is extremely moderate, the sub-  
joined document will prove.

Mrs Clarke,

Dr. to ——— Birkitt.

1804.

£ s. d.

16th May, As in former bill				1,363	14	10
An elegant rich chased silver epergne, four branches, and rich cut glasses to ditto, 153 oz. 16 dwts						
100				139	13	0
Very large oval silver tea tray, 183 oz. 8 dwts.				84	0	0
An elegant rich chased silver tea pot, with square ivory handle,				16	16	0
Twelve gadroond silver soup plates, to cor- respond with the others, 242, 1						
93, 14				105	0	9
15th June, Two large silver gadroond waiters, 129, 9, 9						
49, 11				58	3	0
Putting on silver plates for arms, and po- lishing the above				16	5	0
Engraving arms and crests on the above				21	6	0
Silver tankard				15	15	0
Pair sugar tongs				0	18	0
				<u>£1,821</u>	11	4

From this statement it is evident that the conduct of the Duke can only be accounted for on three suppositions: *first*, that he consented to share the possession of his mistress with more wealthy paramours: *secondly*, that he suffered her under his protection to contract debts, with the intention of evading payment, by disclaiming any knowledge of her extravagance: or *thirdly*, that he expected her to defray the expences of the establishment, by the compliments she might receive from the candidates for military promotion. We are told indeed by Mr. Percival, that vouchers have been seen for the payment of seventeen thousand pounds, during her residence in Gloucester-place, but these vouchers have not been produced; that his Royal Highness had not seventeen thousand pounds to spare during the whole period is evident from the affair of Kennet, and is too notorious to require confirmation. If it be asserted that he raised the seventeen thousand pounds by the good offices of the money-lenders, the assertion does not palliate the imprudence of forming the connection, and the friends of the Duke would rather have consented to the disclosure of these usurious transactions, had they existed, than to his virtual conviction on a charge of connivance in the emoluments of her agency.

If we must, therefore, necessarily admit one of the three suppositions we have advanced to be correct, it is evident that the third with all its indiscretion is the most venial and the most natural. Indeed the fact of connivance, even supposing Mrs. Clarke to be an infamous "*baggage*," unworthy of belief or confidence, is supported by evidence both direct and collateral too powerful to be resisted. This we believe is the present opinion of the ministers. Had the Duke committed the whole of his case entirely to their guidance; had he frankly told them how far he was afraid of implication, and what kind of testimony *might possibly* be adduced against him, their conduct would have been less dangerous to themselves, and less unfavourable in its impression on the

feelings of the public. But unaware of the materials on which Wardle grounded his accusations, and trusting that their own sentiments in favour of the commander in chief would be justified by the progress and result of the proceedings, they boldly bid defiance to the ostensible leader of the attack, rejoiced that the charges had been brought forward in a *tangible shape*, and professed the anxiety of the royal personage himself for a full and rigorous investigation. It should be remembered that many of the speeches and fulminations of defiance that proceeded from the ministerial side of the house, were uttered on the *prima facie* appearance of the cause, without any idea of the facts that were afterwards produced. If this consideration will repress that feeling of ridicule or indignation with which many readers of the speeches of Messrs. Perceval and Yorke have been impressed, after time had shewn the conclusions of these gentlemen to be erroneous, it will likewise account for their perseverance in the Duke's support when it was no longer possible to conceal or to deny his indiscretions. Admitting for a moment that the Duke of York was both able and willing to discharge the expences of the Gloucester-place establishment, and that the charge of participation remains unproved, it will even then be impossible to acquit his Royal Highness of connivance. That the house of Mrs. Clarke was crowded with visitors of fashion; and that men whose profession and character precluded the idea of improper motives, were constant and particular in their attentions to his mistress, is not only verified by the general tenor of the evidence, but by many precise expressions in the correspondence laid before the house. Now it is not usual for clergymen and ladies of title to be very obsequious in their servility, and frequent in their visits to females in the situation of Mrs. Clarke. The Duke must have known that the external marks of respect that she hourly received were dictated by some private motive; that this motive was the solicitation of her interest with

him must immediately suggest itself, and it must have as naturally occurred to his reflection that Mrs. Clarke was not likely to promise, nor her suitors to ask her good offices as marks of her *gratuitous* regard.

It would be inconsistent with our plan, and contrary to our intentions to analyze the mass of oral and written evidence of which the public is in possession. But it appears impossible to doubt, even supposing Mrs. Clarke to be capable of uttering as many falsehoods as Colonel Wardle, that Mrs. Clarke had great influence with the duke, *that she employed that influence in favour of persons for whose advancement she could have no natural anxiety*, and that he must have known the sums she actually expended to be beyond whatever she received either in stipulated payments or from his spontaneous generosity.

The deductions that have been drawn from the correspondence naturally suggest themselves on a first perusal, and the more they are examined the stronger is the conviction of their truth. If we suppose the Duke to be culpable, even without admitting the veracity of his mistress, every difficulty that may occur in their perusal is explained; and the whole mass of authenticated evidence is consistent with itself. But the advocates of the Duke are compelled to torture both the oral testimony and the written evidence from its obvious meaning: subtilty of reasoning is *à priori* an argument of weakness in the cause that it is employed to defend. Mr. Wardle, a man of contemptible talents, was able by the mere justice of the cause of which he had become the accidental champion, to impress the mind of even his prejudiced hearers with unwilling conviction. Mr. Percival with abilities less splendid than transcendant, was only able to prove that even a specious defence of the commander in chief was a task to which the united powers of the lawyer and the orator are unequal.

After reading the only epistles from his Royal Highness that have escaped destruction, it is impossible to be surprized, that every request she made should be granted,

and every impropriety of which she might be guilty forgiven. As proofs of her talents of captivation, they deserve a place among our biographical memoranda.

“ August 4, 1805.

“ How can I sufficiently express to my sweetest, my darling love, the delight which her dear, her pretty letter gave me, or how much I feel all the kind things she says to me in it? Millions and millions of thanks for it, my angel! and be assured, that my heart is fully sensible of your affection, and that upon it alone its whole happiness depends.

“ I am, however, quite hurt that my love did not go to the Lewes races; how kind of her to think of me upon the occasion; but I trust that she knows me too well not to be convinced, that I cannot bear the idea of adding to those sacrifices, which I am but too sensible that she has made to me.

“ News, my angel cannot expect from me from hence; though the life led here, at least in the family I am in, is very hurrying; there is a sameness in it which affords little subject for a letter; except Lord Chesterfield's family, there is not a person except ourselves that I know. Last night we were at the play, which went off better than the first night.

“ Dr. O'Meara called upon me yesterday morning, and delivered me your letter; he wishes much to preach before royalty, and, if I can put him in the way of it, I will.

“ What a time it appears to me already, my darling, since we parted, how impatiently I look forward to next Wednesday se'nnight.

“ God bless you, my own dear, dear love! I shall miss the post if I add more; oh, believe me ever, to my last hour, your's, and your's alone.

Addressed:—“ Mrs. Clarke, to be left at the post-office, Worthing.”

Indorsed.—“ Dr. O'Meara.”

“ Sangate, August 24, 1804.

“ How can I sufficiently express to my darling love my thanks for her dear, dear letter; or the delight which the assurances of her love give me? Oh, my angel! do me justice, and be convinced, that there never was a woman adored as you are. Every day, every hour convinces me more and more, that my whole happiness depends upon you alone. What a time it appears to me since we parted, and with what impatience do I look forward to the day after to-morrow; here are still, however, two whole nights before I shall clasp my darling in my arms!

“ How happy am I to learn that you are better; I still, however, will not give up my hopes of the cause of your feeling uncomfortable:

Clavering is mistaken, my angel, in thinking that any new regiments are to be raised; it is not intended; only second battalions to the existing corps; you had better, therefore, tell him so, and that you were sure there would be no use in applying for him.

"Ten thousand thanks, my love, for the handkerchiefs, which are delightful; and I need not, I trust, assure you of the pleasure I feel in wearing them, and thinking of the dear hands who made them for me.

"Nothing could be more satisfactory than the tour I have made and the state in which I have found every thing. The whole of the day before yesterday was employed in visiting the works of Dover; reviewing the troops there, and examining the coast as far as this place. From Folkstone I had a very good view of those of the French camp.

"Yesterday I first reviewed the camp here, and afterwards the 14th Light Dragoons, who are certainly in very fine order; and from thence proceeded to Brabourn Lees, to see four regiments of militia, which, altogether took me up near thirteen hours. I am now setting off immediately to ride along the coast to Hastings, reviewing the different corps as I pass, which will take me at least as long. Adieu, therefore, my sweet, dearest love, till the day after to-morrow, and be assured, that to my last hour, I shall remain your's, and your's alone."

Addressed:—George Farquhar, esq. 16, Gloucester-place.

FOLKSTONE, 79.

Indorsed:—General Clavering.

The charge of connivance has been denied, on the ground of Mrs. Clarke's anxiety to conceal her negociations from the Duke; but admitting the evidence on this subject to be true, it only proves that Mrs. Clarke was unwilling that his Royal Highness should be acquainted with the amount of the sums that she received for the employment of her influence. To confess that she had received five hundred pounds from Major Tonyn, or one thousand pounds from Mr. Dowler, would have been to release her protector from any obligation of immediate pecuniary assistance. It should likewise be remembered, that though the Commander in Chief might have no objection to comply with the wishes, and serve the interests of his mistress, he might trust to her discretion for the concealment of these irregularities from the public; to hear even

from the parties themselves, of their gratitude to Mrs. Clarke, would excite displeasure; for many a general and statesman who has been the dupe of female cunning, or the participator in corruption, would blush to be reminded of his weakness or his avarice.

The contradictions in Mrs. Clarke's evidence, and its inconsistency with that of more creditable witnesses, was considered at the outset of the investigation, as fatal to the charges which Colonel Wardle endeavoured to substantiate. But were her testimony erased from the minutes of the committee, the evidence against his Royal Highness would be sufficient to prove the necessity of entrusting to other hands the honour and welfare of the army. The examination of Dowler, the correspondence produced by Nicholls, and the letter from Weymouth, have brought to light a series of facts, which, while they corroborate her testimony are totally independent of its truth.

We have no ambition to be enrolled among the monthly or weekly scribblers, who mistake disloyalty for independence, and the fury of jacobinism for the animation of patriotic enthusiasm. But it is better to admit with a good grace that which cannot plausibly be denied; the friends of the Duke of York may persist in calling Mrs. Clarke a baggage, and Colonel Wardle a s——l, but they know that the justice with which these epithets are applied, does not sanction the conclusion that they wish to draw: and the prejudices of the public are confirmed, rather than its opinion misled, by the obstinate repetition of sentiments, which the common sense of the nation has determined to be false.

But the guilt of the Duke of York will not excuse the virulence and injustice of his enemies. The aspersions on his character were not originally circulated because they were believed, but because they afforded materials for popular declamation; and furnished such writers as Jones and Hunt with the subject of Aristidian letters, and Catonian essays.

The admirers of Mr. Cobbett were much delighted with his asking Mr. Yorke, whether he had ever heard of a *talking* conspiracy: it is not worth while to argue on a quibble, and the former gentleman's idea would perhaps have been more appropriately expressed by calling the alliance that he alluded to, a scribbling combination. It cannot be denied, that during the latter part of the year 1808, there was an evident disposition in the majority of public writers, to degrade the dignity of office, and asperse the character of those, whom hereditary rank or personal eminence, had elevated above the level of themselves; every statesman was pronounced by these self-elected censors to be corrupt, and every nobleman profligate. When the name of any individual connected with the royal family was introduced, their malignity was excited to tenfold exasperation; and the productions of Cobbett, and Hague, and M'Allum, abounded in statements, of which time has proved the falsehood, which, if they had been true, they were unable to state but on conjecture, and which would not, under any circumstances, be adduced to justify the dangerous and extraordinary conclusions, by which they intended to inflame the public discontent.

The multitude, unaccustomed to consider political questions in the abstract, are inclined to be grateful to the supposed assertor of their rights at the expence of reason, and confident at the expence of safety. If any public advantage be obtained by the exertions of a *patriot*, they never stop to enquire whether the principles by which his conduct was directed, were just and constitutional, or whether the motives that excited his activity were those of disinterested zeal for the happiness of his constituents. It is possible, that a man whose ultimate views are inimical to the honour of the nation, or the stability of the government, may become the advocate of the people and the enemy to corruption, merely to cultivate that favour with the multitude, that is necessary to the furtherance of his ultimate designs. It is scarcely credible

that observations like these should be necessary; but it is not easy to persuade an English populace that a patriot may be a scoundrel, and a detector of abuses a mercenary pursuer of wealth and aggrandizement; that there are men who rejoice at the maladministration of our placemen, because its developement affords them opportunities of senatorial display; that many of those who exultingly proclaim their services on the late investigation, engaged in its prosecution, not because they had any idea of its result, but because they were in want of a popular topic, and they were thus supplied; and that the exertions of Sir Francis Burdett and Colonel Wardle on this occasion, neither proves the necessity of reform, nor the possibility of diminishing our expenditure by an annual saving of eleven millions.

The embarrassments of Mrs. Clarke are placed in a very striking point of view, by the evidence of Mr. Few and Mrs. Favery, the latter of whom appears to have enjoyed even more confidence than such a character as Mrs. Clarke might have been expected to repose in a dependant sister-in-law. On complaining of difficulties with regard to cash, she received considerable sums from Mr. Dowler, and accounted to her mistress at any distance of time she found convenient. That this woman is really the daughter of Mrs. Clarke's father-in-law, does not admit of any reasonable doubt; it is proved that when she first went to live with Mr. Ellis, she referred for her character to Mrs. Clarke, under the name of Elizabeth Farquhar; and though she positively denies being the sister of that lady, when asked if she be the daughter of Mr. Farquhar by a former marriage, she says that she cannot say any thing to that. She was admirably calculated for house-keeper to an embarrassed courtesan; lying, impudent, and cunning, she supported the same character in the house-keeper's room, as her mistress in the parlour.

The amount of Mr. Few's bill was extremely trifling,

yet she was compelled by her embarrassment, to plead her coverture; the action was determined in her favour; but payment of the account, with costs, was obtained by the transmission of an advertisement, which, as it will be of great importance, in forming an estimate of the Duke's conduct at the period of separation, it will be necessary to insert.

**"CAUTION TO TRADESMEN.**

"This is to give notice to the tradesmen in the neighbourhood of Portman-square, that they cannot recover, by law, any debt from Mrs. Mary Anne Clarke, formerly of Tavistock-place, Russel-square, but now of Gloucester-place, she being a married woman, and her husband now living, though his place of residence was unknown, even to herself or her mother. These facts were proved on the trial of an action, lately brought by a tradesman in Holborn, against this Mrs. Mary Anne Clarke, for goods actually sold and delivered to her; but she availing herself of her coverture (which, to the great surprise of the plaintiff, she contrived to prove), he could not by law obtain any part of his demand; and, being consequently nonsuited, an execution for her costs was, by her attorney, actually put into his, the tradesman's house!!!

"W. Marchant, Printer, 3, Greville-street, Holborn."

That Mrs. Clarke was generally understood to possess considerable influence, is sufficiently apparent from the rank and profession of many of her visitors; it is not to be credited, that Mr. Manners, the Baroness Nollekens, General Clavering, and a thousand others, whose names did not appear in the investigation, would have danced attendance on the leisure of a prostitute, unless a very general conviction had prevailed of her power to serve the suppliant and the generous. Of this universal persuasion, we have before hinted that the Duke of York must have been apprized, if not by the number of carriages at her door, at least by the application of the reverend gentleman, whose request is mentioned in the letter from Weymouth; his Royal Highness could not suspect Dr. O'Meara of carnal motives in his visit to Gloucester-place, nor could he do him the injustice of

supposing that he was indifferent to the character of any lady whom he might honour with his visits. He must have conjectured, therefore, that the reluctance which a member of his sacred profession would naturally feel, to pay homage to a prostitute, was overcome in the struggle between the shame of indecorum, and the hope of profiting by her intercession. Now what could excite this hope, but information collected in the general intercourse of life? Had his Royal Highness been perfectly guiltless of those indiscretions laid to his charge, he would have been surprized and irritated at the very supposition of O'Meara, that any advantage was to be obtained through the influence of Mrs. Clarke; he would have conjured his mistress not to be the medium of applications so improper, and have repulsed the personal visit of the reverend gentleman with the warmth of insulted honour, or the severity of dignified displeasure. Instead of this, he receives the clerical slave of his mistress with the most gracious condescension, replies to her solicitations, that he wishes to preach before royalty, and if he can put him in the way of it he will. The Prince, who at the wish of his mistress, on so improper an occasion would do so much, would surely do more; if he would thus forget what was due to his parent, and to himself, he might not always remember his duty to his country.

About the month of October, 1805, the Duke was served with a subpœna, on an action brought against Mrs. Clarke for money due to a man of the name of Turner. The result of this proceeding, according to the statement of his Royal Highness's friends, was an investigation which led to discoveries extremely unpleasant, and which on being communicated to his Royal Highness, determined him to dissolve a connection so dangerous to his interests and reputation. While that enquiry was proceeding, no intimation of distrust or uneasiness was apparent in the manner of the Duke, and she still believed herself in the full possession of his confidence;

when, on the 11th of May, 1806, Mr. Adam announced his determination to abstain from any further intercourse, and his promise to allow her an annuity of four hundred pounds, *unsecured*, and upon condition of her good behaviour. The embassy of Mr. Adam was succeeded by the subjoined letter.

“ You must recollect the occasion which obliged me, about seven months ago, to employ my solicitor, in a suit with which I was then threatened on your account ; the result of these enquiries (*what enquiries?*) first gave me reason to form an unfavourable opinion of your conduct ; you cannot, therefore, accuse me of rashly or hastily deciding against you ; but after the proofs which have at last been brought forward to me, and which it is impossible for me to controvert, I owe it to my own character and situation, to abide by the resolution which I have taken, and from which it is impossible for me to recede. An interview between us, must be a painful task to both, and can be of no possible advantage to you ; I therefore must decline it.”

The reverend doctor himself declares that he mistook her for “ a widow in the last month of her grief,” and informs his correspondent a sentence or two afterwards, that she could assume all the forms of the goddess of chastity. This is the first time, we believe, that a widow in the last month of her grief, was adorned with the attributes of Diana. This paragon of clergymen appears to have forgotten that Mrs. Clarke introduced him to the Duke. On what footing did he suppose her to be with his Royal Highness, when he solicited the favour ? And why did he think her recommendation of so much consequence as to call in Gloucester-place expressly for the purpose of procuring it ? But, it is vain to observe on the assertions of a man who pretends to mistake Mrs. Clarke for a woman of virtue. He further asserts, that in the Microcosm of London, it is difficult to *distinguish ladies under protection, from ladies of fashion*. Now as he mistook Mrs. Clarke for a Diana, of course, “ ladies under protection,” are the model of female manners, and our ladies of fashion must resemble Mrs. Clarke. A hint of this kind is very moral, very logical, and very gallant ; but the

doctor's simplicity must have degenerated into idiotism if he mistook his patroness *for any thing but what she is*.

We shall print his letter as a memento to other clergymen, whom the love of money, or the ambition of rank, may hereafter tempt to transgress the bounds of decorum, and forget the dignity of their sacred profession. It deserves indeed, the most extensive circulation, as a memorial of disgrace to its infatuated author.

“ Dublin, 29, Frederick Street.

“ My Dear Sir,

“ I congratulate you on the victory Mrs. Clarke has gained over the Mushroom Patriot; I think we could give him *le coup de grâce*. I have collected some curious particulars of his own campaign in Ireland, one MOST HORRIBLE, AND WHICH WILL BE PROVED ON OATH. ONE DAY DURING THE REBELLION, HE MET A POOR MAN NEAR ATHY, WITH A SACHEL ON HIS BACK, CONTAINING AN AXE, AN AUGER, A SAW, &c. &c.; HE IMMEDIATELY CONCLUDED THAT THE POOR MAN WAS A REBEL HAVING SUCH DANGEROUS WEAPONS CONCEALED IN A SACK. IN VAIN THE POOR MAN DECLARED THAT HE WAS A CARPENTER AND THAT THESE WERE HIS TOOLS. THE COLONEL COULD NOT BE CONVINCED, AND HE ORDERED HIS HEAD TO BE SAWED OFF, WHICH WAS DONE ON THE SPOT. I hope Mrs. Clarke, now that she has passed through this ordeal trial, will have no objection to state the whole truth of my private and personal friends. She told me she did not intend to mention my name; that she was forced by Mr. Wardle to embellish as she did with respect to me. The blow was aimed at the Established Church, to stab it through the sides of a Clergyman; the Reformists and Methodists being leagued together to pull down both Church and State.

“ My letters in defence of the Duke were not mentioned, which was the ground and cause of my introduction to him; and his Royal Highness having thanked me for writing those letters, I ventured to ask him for the Chaplaincy of the Royal Yacht, and for which he promised to apply, on my forwarding to him a letter of recommendation from some Bishop, and which I did from Bath, directed to Portman-square: this fact I wish to have cleared up, to shew the Archbishop and my friends here.

“ Cobbett says, I preached at Weymouth from under the wing of Mrs. Clarke, whereas it was the year before, I preached before the Royal Family, viz. 1804. *In the Microcosm of London it is difficult to distinguish ladies under protection from ladies of fashion; each of these orders borrows the manners of the other, and they act their parts*

as naturally, it is no wonder a man of so much simplicity was deceived by the illusions of graceful manners, and modest discourse. The goddess Hecate, who presided over magic and enchantments, was the same with Luna and Diana. Mrs. Clarke could personate this divinity with ease, assuming all her forms, attributes and functions; and Mr. C'Meara assured me she was a widow in the last month of her grief. The masquerade was continued by the visits of ladies of fashion at her house, and the visiting cards of many of high consideration, &c. &c. &c.

"I intend being in London in Spring, when I hope to see you; and I shall be glad to get an answer to this letter.

"When you see Mr. O, give him my best regards.

"I am, my dear Sir, yours sincerely,

"T. O'M."

"22d Dec. 1809."

"I opened this letter to add, that the letter of mine which was found by the secret committee, and which has been so much misrepresented as an indecent production, was an answer to a hoaxing letter I got from Mrs. Clarke, in which she said she was tired of the pomps and vanities of this wicked world, &c. &c. that Mary Magdalen was not more penitent, and entreating that I would comfort the weak-hearted, and find out for her a cheap and safe asylum in Ireland. I answered the epistle of this witty piece of *Eve's flesh in print*, and for which the Saints and Reformers have splashed me with abuse. Mrs. Clarke got back this letter, and I hope she will preserve it, and the Archbishop's letter."

"To Captain Thompson."

It appears from the Duke's letter already quoted, that the proofs which were brought forward, in consequence of the enquiries subsequent to the application of Turner, were the ostensible grounds of his Royal Highness's unexpected resolution. But it is extremely curious, that the evidence of the duke's adviser, and attorney, should have a direct tendency to imply that no such proofs as those alluded to could be procured; Mr. Adam asserts indeed, in his first examination, that the discoveries that arose out of the enquiry, were on "the 6th, or 7th, or 8th of May submitted in detail, and in writing to his Royal Highness, accompanied with the proofs." But Mr. Lowten, one of the persons employed to make the investigation, being asked "if he received any, and what proofs that Mrs.

Clarke had made use of his Royal Highness the Duke of York's name to raise money," returns for answer, "that he cannot say that he did, in the course of the inquiries make discoveries, that she had made use of the Duke of York's name to raise money;" and in reply to the question "whether, among the papers laid before the Duke of York, there were any documents to prove that any money was raised in the Duke of York's name by Mrs. Clarke," he says "he thinks there were not;" his evidence is corroborated by that of Mr. Wilkinson. Unless, therefore, we suppose, that the above letter contains a falsehood; we must take it for granted, that the *proofs* which led to the separation, did not relate to pecuniary transactions, but to the stories about Berkhamstead, the situation of her family, &c. points on which Mr. Lowten was almost exclusively employed. "My enquiries (he says) were not directed to the purpose of knowing what transactions she had with respect to money concerns, they were directed to Mrs. Clarke's husband, and her family, rather than to the mode in which she acquired money;" and Mr. Adam gives a long account of the falsehoods that she told about the relationship of her husband to Alderman Clarke, and her marriage at Berkhamstead.

But we are astonished that his Royal Highness should stoop to excuses so paltry, and so insufficient. The advertisement sent him by Few, must have made him acquainted with the existence of Mrs. Clarke's husband, had he not been aware of that circumstance before; if the enquiry was directed to the conduct of Mr. Clarke, or Mrs. Farquhar, it might as well have been commenced at the beginning of the connection, nor is it usual to estimate the propriety of retaining a lady under protection by the demeanour of her relations; and if Mr. Lowten and Mr. Adam were employed for no other purpose than to detect the falsehoods of Mrs. Clarke, what idea can we form of the prince, who deserts his mistress because she has been detected in untruths? the paramour, who turns away

his *married* concubine for lying, should ask himself whether falsehood be more criminal than adultery.

Mr. Lowten says, it is true, that "in consequence of the protection she had from the Duke of York, and the way she lived, many persons were induced to trust her further than they would have done, if it had not been for that protection." But to suppose that this was a result which his Royal Highness did not foresee, at the first formation of the connection, is to deny him the possession of common sense.

The natural conclusions to be drawn from the letter of the Duke, and the evidence of his friends, are by no means honourable to his character. It would appear that, alarmed by a subpoena, and involved in pecuniary difficulties which disabled him from fulfilling his engagements with his mistress, or assisting her to continue an expensive establishment, he found that it would be prudent to dissolve the connection. Now the only honourable mode of proceeding would have been to enter into such explanations, as without committing his character or interests any more than they had already been committed, would have deprived her of any apology for complaint. Even if this line of conduct was thought too humiliating, it was at least his duty to see that she did not sink from the height of apparent affluence, to the lowest depth of indigence and misery. He had taught her to riot in unrestrained indulgence; he had accustomed her to all the luxuries and elegancies of life. It would at least have indicated a generous nature, to have made some moderate but substantial provision for the woman, whom he had, not long before, adored as an angel, and loved with an affection that "*neither time nor absence*" could diminish. But instead of that manly and generous conduct, it appears from the evidence before us that a circumstance unpleasant in itself, but of a nature to be expected as likely to result from a connection with Mrs. Clarke, occurred about October, 1805, that the enquiries then

directed to be made, were either negligently pursued or did not give rise to any discoveries of sufficient importance to induce any change in his conduct, that at the beginning of 1806, he was unable any longer to fulfil with Mrs. Clarke even his stipulated engagements, and that pecuniary embarrassment rendered even a nominal connection with her extremely inconvenient. But the Duke was unwilling to part without some pretext that might leave her no claim upon his justice or his honour, but reduce her to dependance on his generosity. Mr. Lowten therefore was employed to make enquiries, which if they had been made at all, should have been made in 1805, which if they proved the indiscretions of the family did not dissolve the claims of his mistress, and which if they were meant to convict her of falsehood were irrelevant and superogatory. Mr. Wilkinson also is employed to investigate her conduct with regard to pecuniary transactions: of her delinquency no proof can be obtained, and either the duke is guilty of falsehood in saying that it was in consequence of the "proofs brought forward to him," resulting from the enquiry into Turner's business, that he determined on a separation, or he must mean that the proofs alluded to were those respecting her family, though it is not easy to conceive what connection they have with the subpœna. Having thus by pretexts either absurd or nonexistant, placed himself in the situation of an injured protector, rather than a faithless and ungenerous violater of his engagements, he sends a confidential friend to offer her an annuity of four hundred a year, secured by no other pledge than a prince's honour, and payable only as long as her conduct is correct. Now it is irresistibly ludicrous to hear an injunction of correct conduct proceeding from a personage who had been guilty of complicated adultery for more than three years, with the very woman, of whose virtue and reputation he is so careful, and who, according to his advocates had exclusively supported her in the splendor of meretricious infamy.

A representation of her distresses in a manner not to be disregarded procured her the lease of the house in Gloucester-place; and on part of the money arising from its sale, she probably existed, during the interval between their separation and the commencement of her acquaintance with Colonel Wardle. In October, 1807, we find her at the house of Nicholls a baker at Hampstead.

The evidence of Nicholls is unworthy of belief; he states that he thought Mr. Dowler was her husband, yet he never applied to that gentleman for the payment of his bill. It may be collected that she passed at this place as a widow, and that till the middle of the next year, though embarrassed she was not indigent. She rented the greater part (furnished we presume,) of Nicholls's house, and supported her brother, and a French lady, whose claims on her kindness are unknown. From Nicholls's she removed to the house of Mrs. Andrews, (we believe) on Haverstock-hill. Here she became acquainted with the amiable and virtuous Sir Richard Phillips: the knight confided his discoveries to M'Ullum, and M'Ullum repeated them to Colonel Wardle. This statement is indeed somewhat different from that of Mrs. Clarke, but it is not therefore less correct. The lady having removed to Bedford-place, M'Ullum was commissioned to discover her address. The persuasion that M'Ullum was a sheriff's officer for some time retarded the colonel's operations, but at length the fears of the lady were relieved, and in September, 1807, the man who has since appeared in the successive characters of P. S. F. had the honour of a gracious reception.

To the exploits of the colonel in Ireland and to his mode of "rising in the world," we shall do justice at a future opportunity, our present business is to investigate his conduct as far as it relates to the history of the late enquiry. His acquaintance with Major Dodd, had existed some time previous to the embassy of M'Ullum, and they are supposed to have written in conjunction

with him and Mr. Hague, the pamphlet entitled "Observations on his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent's shameful Persecution, &c. &c." It is impossible to read Mrs. Clarke's book, without observing how completely she has been the dupe of this immaculate secretary; every circumstance that she adduces to prove the participation of the Duke of Kent in their proceeding, has a direct tendency to demonstrate his Royal Highness's innocence. The terror of Dodd at the idea of discovery; the paltry and absurd observations by which he endeavours to account for the Duke's expressions of fraternal attachment in the house of lords; and all the other circumstances related of his behaviour, conspire to testify that his proceedings were without the knowledge and contrary to the real wishes of his master. Indeed the internal evidence of the facts and arguments adduced by Mrs. Clarke to substantiate her charges against the Duke of Kent, is so irresistibly conclusive in his favour, that we shall abstain from any further remarks on this part of the question as unnecessary.

Mrs. Clarke was not to be persuaded, however, that her honourable friends were able of themselves to fulfil even their promise of four hundred pounds a year; and when they mentioned a coach, and ten thousand pounds, it became necessary to afford her something like security. The subjoined letter, therefore, which no reader can examine without admiring its ambiguous felicity of expression, was submitted to her perusal.

Sloane Street, Nov. 21, 1808.

"My dear Wardle,

"The more I reflect on this morning's conversation, I feel more convinced that every individual who is assisting in this great cause, is entitled, not only to our private but public *protection* and thanks. These, I am fully convinced, are your sentiments as well as mine; and they must be those of every honest well thinking man. If this assurance from me can be of any service, you have my authority to use it as you please; for what you mentioned of a *certain female*.

"I have no hesitation in believing that her *co-operation* will be more material than that of any other person.—God knows! she may be most infamously used and barbarously treated by an illustrious great B; but she may now have an opportunity of redressing her wrongs; and by serving a generous public most essentially to benefit herself.

"I remain, my dear W. ever your's,

(Signed)

"THOMAS DODD."

The next document is of great importance on account of the passages in italics, which in both Mrs. Clarke's and the colonel's printed copies are omitted.

"Dear Sir,

"When I sent for you the other day, (and you came accompanied by Major Dodd), to inquire of you how far you intended to carry into execution your promises towards me, you seemed unwilling to admit, that these promises had been made but *conditionally*, in the event of the Duke of Kent succeeding the man, whom *I was to give evidence enough against to turn out*—this I deny—it was without that condition. The manner that Major Dodd and yourself evinced, led me to believe, that you have felt *yourself* under promises, you were unequal or unwilling to perform; and you thought to avail yourselves of future promises as futile as evasive, neither of which ought or can succeed. I will here put you in mind once more of these promises, and of my expectations, which, if you value yourselves and characters, as men of honour, you cannot but accede to—nor can you think I require any thing but what I am most fully entitled to.

"As you say nothing is in your power, at this present moment, I will lay down my plan—that yourself and Major Dodd enter into a joint bond (as you did in promises) to give me, within the space of two years, the sum of ten thousand pounds; and, till that time, to allow me five hundred a year, commencing from last March, and to pay the remainder of Mr. Wright's bill. This is not half in value of the promises given, as I will here specify; that as my son would lose the protection of the Duke of York, as soon as I began to work on his ruin, (*which I have pledged myself to complete*) he was to have the same protection from the Duke of Kent. In consequence I took my boy from the Duke of York, and I have him now on my hands. Captain Thompson was to have a situation competent to keep him in his usual way of living, or to try to get him reinstated in the army,—he remains as he did—I was to have my annuity of four hundred a year, as promised by the Duke of York, (but not performed) continued to me for my life, and to have all my debts paid—those contract-

ed while I lived with the Duke of York, and what I might owe since—Mr. Comrie paid the twelve hundred pounds, for which he kept my furniture and diamonds—and my present house of furniture paid.—To these promises, most faithfully given, to be most sacredly kept, and by me believed in the firmest manner, or why should I have refused and exposed the propositions of affluence held out to me, during the time of the investigation, by the Parson Williams? This is quite enough to answer the whole. It is useless to say any thing of the situation I have placed myself and family in the public view, by the late proceeding; but had you even *that* I ask, to pay me out of your own pocket, you would still be the gainer. From what I have here stated to you, I cannot, in duty to myself and children recede from, and I expect you will lose no time in making my mind (which God knows has been harassed enough these six months) easy, and comply with my wishes, that I may get into the country, to avoid, if nothing else, the public gaze. I keep a copy of this letter, I shall feel at liberty to do with it what I please, if not attended to by you; but of this I do not, cannot doubt, when I consider all things.

“I am, Dear Sir,

“Your most obedient and humble servant,

(Signed) “MARY ANNE CLARKE.”

“Westbourne-place, Sloane Square.

“To Col. Wardle, May 14, 1809.”

Now setting aside the suspicious appearance of Colonel Wardle under a fictitious name, the protection of Miss Brown *alias* Miss Davies while he was “avenging the insulted virtue of wedded love,” and all the other disgraceful traits of character that occurred to the knowledge of Mrs. Clarke, between the commencement of the plot and its execution, after comparing the contents of this letter, and particularly the passages in italics which the colonel was ashamed to publish, with the substance of his examination as to his visits to Mrs. Clarke, and to his sources of information, what are we to think of his honour or veracity? His prevarication when questioned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the number of times that he had seen Mrs. Clarke, for two or three days before, was so gross as to trespass on the indulgence of the house, and excite

the indignation of the public. But it was little suspected that he had already given her a hundred pounds for her letters, and that she was pledged to give *evidence enough to turn out* the commander in chief. We should be glad to know how the colonel reconciles the disclosures contained in the above letter, with his assertion in the house of commons, in reply to a question of Mr. Perceval "*that he never had any negotiation with Mrs. Clarke about letters in his life.*" It is evident that all the stories that he told about other sources of information, all the apologies that he made for running away with Mrs. Clarke's letters, amounting to nearly one third of his evidence, are shameless and desperate falsehoods. For Mrs. Clarke to appear night after night at the bar of the house, with pre-concerted lies, was comparatively venial; but for a senator, a gentleman, and a patriot, to come deliberately forward, and emulate her wickedness, is unexampled, except in the history of Colonel Wardle; "none but himself can be his parallel."

After the late discoveries, it is not easy to read the compliments paid by Mr. Whitbread and Lord Folkstone to the manliness and the disinterestedness of their honourable friend, without feeling for the accuser of Lord Melville some degree of regret, and at the noble prophet more than usual indignation; the former judged from appearances, but the latter was at least aware that the colonel's visits to his fair informant were more frequent than they ought to be.

So far from the colonel being influenced by a wish to serve his country by pursuing an enquiry, of which the evidence had incidentally fallen into his hands, it appears that he was on the alert in search of information, and that the condition of the reward promised to Mrs. Clarke was not the disclosure of truth, but the production of whatever evidence might be necessary to accomplish the Duke's disgrace. That the enquiry led to important and extraordinary discoveries, does no credit to the patriotism or sagacity of the colonel, for at the beginning

of the investigation he could have no suspicion that the letters produced by Nicholls were in existence. The consideration that much of the subsequent matter that influenced the opinion of the house, was never in Mrs. Clarke's possession, or was at that time beyond her reach, is of great importance in forming an estimate of her conduct. When she pledged herself to produce as much evidence as would "*turn him out*," Mr. Wardle must have known the full extent of what would really implicate the Duke, independent of her verbal corroboration; he must have known that this was not sufficient to support his charges, and by the above condition, therefore, he bound her to fill up the required measure of evidence with oral testimony *quantum sufficit*. Such are his feelings of honour, and such his principles of justice!

His criminality might indeed be somewhat palliated, by the supposition that he was himself the dupe of Major Dodd, and trusted to the assistance of the Duke of Kent, for the means of fulfilling his promises to Mrs. Clarke; but the man who could thus be drawn, without enquiry, into the snares of a contemptible adventurer, must be an idiot or a lunatic. Nor will an excuse of this kind justify, though it may explain, the motives that urged to cooperation with the supposed instrument of princely revenge.

As the verdict of a jury has substantiated the claim of Mr. Wright, as the evidence is before the public, and has since its appearance been corroborated by many collateral circumstances, and as the conclusions that we should draw are the same as must occur to every one who is acquainted with the subject, we shall only ask whether, after the knowledge that we now possess of Colonel Wardle's character, he really expects that any one should put his affidavit in competition with the evidence of Mr. Stokes. Even supposing that there was a balance of responsibility, every motive of interest or ambition, the hope of defeating his creditor's claim, and the fear of losing his popularity, must have had a tenden-

cy to bias his testimony, and purchase present security at the *risk* of future infamy. On the part of Mr. Stokes no motive of perjury has been shown.

But if the evidence of that gentleman be true, the defendant in Wright's action must have been guilty of PERJURY. That truth is a stranger to his tongue, no man who compares his testimony in the house of commons with the information that has since been communicated to the world, will dispute: and it is surely not uncharitable to conclude that he, who before a tribunal so awful as the house of commons, and on a subject so important as the late enquiry, would be guilty of gross and deliberate falsehood, would be restrained from perjury by no sentiments of fear, of honour, or religion.

In the management of his plans he has indeed been miserably unfortunate. Had he possessed common prudence, he might at the present moment have been the idol of British admiration, the elected champion of the people, and the object of respectful consideration to the principals of every political party. Had the claim of Wright been otherwise than perfectly legal, he must have been aware that he sanctioned the negotiations of Mrs. Clarke by his presence; a tradesman, if he did not absolutely expect the payment of his bill from the apparent friend of such a lady, when that friend was a man of supposed fortune, and a member of parliament, would feel at least a persuasion that no gentleman would commit himself by accompanying a courtesan to make purchases, unless he had some idea that they were not too extensive for her circumstances. Twelve hundred pounds, setting aside the absolute promise, was a trifling remuneration to Mrs. Clarke for the services she had rendered him; and surely even the colonel will not have the impudence to say, that no pecuniary assistance was either promised or implied in return for her evidence, or that, had the demand of Wright been successfully resisted, she would have had reason to be satisfied with his subsequent liberality.

The ridiculous letters of Lord Folkstone only prove that his lordship is a much more entertaining personage as a senator than as a correspondent. A man of sense or feeling would have made a better use of Mrs. Clarke, without descending to confidence so childish, and intimacy so familiar, as that disclosed in his correspondence. His late affair with General Clavering is more ridiculous than any thing that the genius of Fielding has conceived. We think it plain that General Clavering was as much afraid of the *rencontre* as his lordship; he proposes to fight with pistols muzzle to muzzle, merely that he may frighten his antagonist into an apology. That the manœuvre succeeds is pretty evident; but, in the struggle between fear and shame, he makes a feeble declaration of defiance. The general becomes suddenly cool, and the dispute is compromised by a form of mutual retraction. Lord Folkstone has now the consolation of reflecting on his expression of sorrow for having offended a CONVICTED LIAR, and on his escape from personal danger by an unworthy subterfuge. If his mode of explanation be admitted, there is an end to duelling; we may abuse an individual in any terms that we please, and then assure him that as we were not aware of the paper falling into his hands, we could have no intention to offend him. But even the meanness of Folkstone is less reprehensible than the fatuity of Clavering. In his situation, silence alone was becoming, and if he thought Lord Folkstone a proper object of revenge, why did he not likewise send a challenge to Mr. Wynne?

There are some other characters, to whom their connection with Mrs. Clarke has been equally unfortunate to their interests and reputation. The city bookseller has long attracted the attention of the public; but if we mistake not, there is a note in the possession of Gillet, the printer, of a nature still more curious than any that have appeared in the *Rival Princes*. We scarcely know how to explain ourselves. But if the reader supposes him writing to an authoress in the following manner, and substitutes

a less decent *monosyllable* for volumes, &c. &c. he will have some idea of the knight's morality.

"Dear Madam,

"I am at least as good a (publisher) as \* \* \* \* \* or \* \* \* \* \*, and flatter myself I do things as well as any man; now I'll give you one hundred guineas for a single volume, fifty for the next, and twenty-five for the next, *and so on*; send me word whether you agree.

"Yours affectionately, &c."

Since the suppression of her book, for which she received ten thousand pounds, and an annuity of four hundred pounds, she has resided partly at Hampstead, and partly at Putney; attending to the education of her daughter, and relieved by the occasional visits of the gallant Mr. Gillet, between whom and Mrs. Gillet there have been more than one battle heroic on the subject on the stairs of the printing-office. But this Mr. Gillet will say is private scandal, and we shall therefore leave him to enjoy his Saturday's excursion unmolested.

The following are among the many contradictions which took place during the investigation and afterwards.

#### I.

Q. How long might your visit be on the first of December with Major Dodd, and Mrs. Clarke, that is, how long did you continue that day in Wright's warehouse?

*Colonel Wardle's Answer.* Perhaps half an hour, or more.

*Major Dodd's Answer.* But a few minutes, not exceeding a quarter of an hour.

#### II.

1. Q. You had both Mr. Glennie, and Major Dodd here, during the trial?

*A.* I had not. *Neither of them were subpœnaed by me.*

2. Q. Then I am to understand that Major Dodd was not subpœnaed to any particular fact, but merely to contradict?

*A.* I subpœnaed him from his being present at Wright's warehouse.

#### III.

1. Q. Did Colonel Wardle never tell you that Mrs. Clarke was in embarrassed circumstances?

*Major Dodd.* I recollect Colonel Wardle telling me that Mrs. Clarke wanted money.

Q. What to pay her way with the butcher and baker?

*Major Dodd.* I know nothing of that.

Q. Did you not know that she could not have gone on the tour (to the Martello towers) until her pecuniary embarrassments were relieved by Colonel Wardle, by an advance of one hundred pounds?

*Major Dodd.* I know of nothing that impeded her on that score.

2. Q. Col. Wardle you know is a family man: you could not think he gave it to her for any improper purposes. What did you understand he gave the money for?

A. I understood it was to pay her BUTCHER and BAKER, otherwise she could not accompany us.

IV.

1. Q. Was the style of furnishing such as impressed you with an idea of its being expensive?

*Major Dodd.* I can't say whether it did or not.

2. Q. But you thought it expensive?

*Major Dodd.* Yes, I certainly conceived the furniture was expensive.

V.

1. Q. During the enquiry, was Colonel Wardle satisfied with Mrs. Clarke's evidence?

*Major Dodd.* I believe he was.

2. Q. (Immediately after the preceding one,) Then she gave him ample satisfaction?

*Major Dodd.* I don't think she did.

VI.

1. Q. You took no interest in the enquiry that was going on?

*Major Dodd.* No more than any other indifferent person.

2. "The more I reflect on the conversation we had this morning, and which had for its object the pure honor and interest of our country, the more I feel convinced that every individual, who is assisting in the great cause, is entitled not only to our private, but to public protection."—Major Dodd's Letter to Colonel Wardle.

VII.

1. Q. Did you, or did you not give Colonel Wardle assistance and information upon that enquiry, and did he not receive it as such?

*Major Dodd.* I saw him frequently upon it.

2. Q. Were not your communications very frequent on that subject?

*Major Dodd.* Not very frequent.

VIII.

1. Q. Did not Colonel Wardle take her upon that expedition (to the Martello Towers) for the express purpose of picking out of her all the

information that he could, relative to his Royal Highness the Duke of York ?

*Mr. Glennie.* He expected to get from her that information which might be useful in the meditated enquiry.

*Q.* Did not you always think Mrs. Clarke's evidence a matter of great importance to Colonel Wardle in the prosecution of his enquiry ?

*Major Dodd.* I always thought the evidence of Mrs. Clarke of consequence to Colonel Wardle.

2. "It was urged by your lordship against me, that I had given Mrs. Clarke one hundred pounds, which your lordship considered a bonus for her testimony: in this your lordship acted under a misconception, the money so given was upon condition she took with her into the country her papers. It was her *documents* I then wanted to possess, and not her testimony."

#### IX.

1. I stated to him (Wright) in express terms, that Colonel Wardle could do nothing *for him*.

2. "Will you after seeing Mr. Wright the Upholsterer, in Rathbone-place, meet Major Dodd, and myself, at Fladong's hotel, about a quarter before twelve o'clock. I hope you will be able to prevail upon Mr. Wright to let Mrs. Clarke know that he will be satisfied to wait till the end of next month."——Wardle's Letter to Mr. Glennie.

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That though the Duke of York was guilty of the charges adduced against him, his accuser was a \*\*\*\*e, and the principal evidence a woman more infamous than would be easily found, even among the female favourites of Major Dodd, is the position that our preceding observations are intended to enforce. The English considered as a nation are sanguine in their views, and hasty in their resolves; and if the hasty narrative that we have given, have no other merit or utility, it may at least impress upon the majority of readers the conclusion that the virtues most essential to the happiness of a powerful people, are calmness of decision and moderation in its anger and its gratitude.

## EDWARD SENATE, (M. D.)

IT is impossible for a professional man acquainted with the artifices of quackery, not to be irresistibly impressed with a conviction, that the life of a patient is of no value with an empiric, when placed in competition with his emolument. As the most violent remedies often afford only a temporary relief, but ultimately aggravate the disorder that they were intended to cure, the latter of these effects does not prevent a regular nostrum-monger from taking advantage of the former; and we are firmly convinced, that if any one of the modern tribe of quacks were assured that by selling a five shilling bottle of his poison to-day, he should cause the death of a fellow creature to-morrow, he would rather hazard the commission of the crime, than the loss of the reward.

The greatest security of the patient is the responsibility of his physician. Every regular member of the faculty has not only a moral, but a professional character to lose: if he feels no sympathy for his patient, he has at least some consideration for himself, and every motive of interest or ambition must excite him to an active and conscientious exercise of his skill; but what security of this kind has any one, in trusting to the nostrum of a quack? The proprietors of such compositions are usually men whom poverty has rendered desperate, whose connections and whose modes of life are utterly unknown, and with whom their patients have seldom a personal intercourse. Such persons as these *may murder in security*; their patients are too far divided from each other to mingle their complaints, and detection and disgrace are too familiar to be expected with fear, or borne with impatience. If they do not succeed in one part of the country, they can travel to another, and if they again be disappointed, the agency of Ward and Barclay will save them the necessity of a personal appearance on the stage.

The majority of those quacks who figure in the columns of our daily papers, have been shopmen to druggists, or footboys to some regular physician. Having been employed in making up a favourite prescription from the recipe of his master, a personage of this description sagaciously supposes that what is good for one may be good for another, and immediately commences practitioner on his own account, by advertising it as an infallible specific for every disorder with which human nature can be afflicted. It not unfrequently happens, that these compositions are of such a quality that though when given in proper doses, and under judicious restrictions, they might be productive of benefit in some particular disease, yet when administered incautiously, in a different state of constitution, or for a different affection of the body, they are productive of immediate death or lingering anguish; the Tasteless Ague Drop, (a solution of arsenic,) for instance, may in doses of a few minims, and in particular cases have a very beneficial and powerful effect, but when (as must necessarily be the case with every quack medicine,) it is taken in larger doses, or by persons of a delicate and peculiar constitution, the consequences of its administration are proportionably injurious.

The most common quack medicines are of this description: Dr. Solomon's Balm of Gilead, (*vid.* Tab. I. No. 1.) if it be taken incautiously produces stranguary; Godfrey's Cordial, (Tab. II. No. 2.) which contains a quantity of opium, has in all probability killed as many children as the convulsions it was designed to cure; and Gowland's Lotion, (Tab. I.) of which the efficacy depends on its proportion of corrosive sublimate, is not less dangerous because it is confined to external application.

The cupidity of quacks is scarcely less detestable than their want of principle: it will hardly be believed that the profit on their floating capital, (*that is*, exclusive of the stamps, the price of the bottle, &c. which are of integral value independant of the sale) is, after paying the expences of advertisements, about sixteen hundred per

cent. Dr. Brodum who came to England in a deplorable state of indigence, retired with *one hundred and forty thousand pounds*. Nor is the success of that person more extraordinary than that of his competitors: if the generation of quacks appear as a body miserably poor, it should be remembered that one half of them are new adventurers, and that the rest are as profligate as they are avaricious: the wealth which is acquired by fraud is squandered in folly, and the fruits of a *thousand murders* are dissipated in a single debauch.

While there are purchasers of nostrums there will be no want of quacks to manufacture them. The destruction of quackery depends on the public, whose health it endangers, and whose property it steals: let every one abstain from these potions till he be actually weary of his life, and the regular practitioners will no longer have the mortification of seeing the rewards that are due to learning, perseverance, and integrity, monopolized by the vulgar, the ignorant, and the unprincipled. If there be any folly (says a medical writer) more deplorable than another, it is that of flying to quackery for relief from disease, while we complain of the shortness of life, and the uncertainty of health: it is like praying for length of days while we are swallowing poison, or losing the right eye in weeping for the loss of the left.

As we have not thought the gentleman to whose memoirs these observations are preliminary, worth the trouble of a voyage to Ireland, we are unable to immortalize the place of his nativity, or to say any thing either to the credit or discredit of his parents. When a journeyman apothecary, in which character he entered on the theatre of life, he was particularly noticed by the *filles de joie* of Dublin, among whom his master's business principally laid, for the neatness with which he folded the envelopes of his pills and powders. Through the influence of a fortunate prostitute, whose afflictions he had alleviated in her days of indigence, he was established in the High-street, Dublin, in a snug apothecary's shop: the real, or

imaginary virtues of his "matrimonial pills," obtained him an extensive practice, and in a short while he was able to engage an elegant house, furnished on the principles of Graham, supplied with Paphian baths, celestial beds, and stimulating pictures.

But his extravagance was as unbounded as his emoluments were great. Accident introduced him to the acquaintance of a female, whose beauty was only equalled by her dexterity at cards. She had no objection to a rich protector, and aware of his own embarrassments he was anxious to become the sharer of her winnings; for some time they lived together in tolerable harmony, but the tricks of the lady being discovered, and the pecuniary difficulties of the doctor rendering it impossible that he should remain in Dublin, he thought proper to take an abrupt leave of his patients and his creditors, and embark for England, resigning the fair partner of his medical establishment to the protection of the celebrated CONOLLY.

About the year 1794, we find him carrying on the business of a money-lender, in St. Anne's lane, St. Martin's-le-grand. It may appear extraordinary that a fugitive from his country, on account of debt, should offer to supply others with an article of which he was himself so much in want. But of the businesses in which mankind are engaged, that of which Dr. Senate is so bright an ornament is established with the most trifling capital; the object of a money-lender is not so often to discount bills, at an enormous premium, as to keep them altogether. On some pretence or other, he procures the applicant for ready money to leave his securities till his partner be consulted, or till he has time to investigate their value; as soon as he has gained possession of a decent number of these bills, and is able to convert them into money, which can seldom be done without a loss of nearly one half, he decamps with the spoils of public credulity. It requires indeed great "*management*" to "put off" the owners of the bills, till his plan is on the point of completion, and still greater address to convert them into

cash,(which can seldom be done, but by purchasing goods of an embarrassed tradesman who is not unwilling to venture on their acceptance in payment,) and by pledging the goods thus obtained, or reselling them at less than half their value. That the doctor pursued a system of this kind, that on the pretence of a country excursion he fled to the coast, with an intention of departing for the continent, that he was pursued and apprehended by his creditors, and was discharged on its appearing that the particular bill on which the pursuit was made was still in his possession, (though concealed in the stuffing of his cravat) are circumstances which it might perhaps be libellous to record. We shall accompany him therefore to the house of a Mr. Wills in Cecil-street, where he lay *perdu* till the pursuit of his creditors had abated: Wills had formerly been valet to a nobleman, but he now exercised the profession of a quack, and from him the doctor learned the composition of the Paraguay Tooth Powder, which he afterwards dispensed with considerable success, and of which he sold the formula to one *Turtle*, a medicine vendor, for fifteen hundred pounds; a price like this for a dentifrice composed of chalk and rose pink, is sufficient to testify the facility of extensive depredations in this "line of business." But the credulity of the public is still more strikingly illustrated by the fact, that a negociation between our hero and the same Mr. Turtle, was actually on foot; for the purchase of "Velno's Vegetable Pills," at the price of ten thousand pounds. The negociation was not satisfactorily concluded, for Mr. T. who appears to have had some little feeling of honesty, happening to discover that these "Vegetable Pills," were composed of mercury, refused to have any further conversation with their inventor.

He again had recourse to his trade of money-lending, and as the necessitous are seldom cautious, he found no difficulty in procuring applicants. He might soon have become a formidable rival of John King, had it not been for the retention of some bills, with which Colonel

Whaley had entrusted him for the purpose of negotiation. The colonel was put off from day to day, by the usual modes of evasion, but his patience being at length exhausted, he applied to his solicitor, and Mr. Senate appeared in the Gazette.

On the production of the bills however before the commissioners, it was found that they were not indorsed, and the commission was ordered by the chancellor to be superseded.

Among other property, of which the messenger obtained possession under the commission, were some gold watches, which the doctor had intended for exportation to India through the medium of Mr. Stoke, the mate of an Indiaman, who married the sister of Mrs. Senate. The doctor petitioned the chancellor for the restoration of the valuables obtained under the commission, specifying the watches in particular, but the petition being opposed by Mr. Scott, on the part of Colonel Whaley, the Lord Chancellor, on what grounds may be easily conjectured, refused to interfere, and left him to recover his property if he chose, by an action of trover.

After disposing of his effects, and paying the expences of legal proceedings, he found that his whole possessions amounted to about thirty pounds. In this situation what was to be done? He at length determined on expending the money on printing and advertising a new treatise on *Female Complaints*, which should rival the impudence of Brodum, and the indecency of Solomon.

It is impossible to analyze this farrago of obscenity and ignorance, without insulting the modesty of our female readers: we shall merely observe, therefore, that its great purpose is to recommend the Aromatic Lozenges of Steel as infallible in every disease to which the virgin and the matron can be subject; that its author endeavours to explain what is necessary to be known, in language better adapted to the brothel than the closet; and that it represents the female world as in general lascivious to a degree of which the male creation can have no idea. The

doctor insists with great emphasis on the necessity of "long continued perseverance in the employment of his medicines," and informs us, with a modesty and liberality peculiar to himself, that "half a guinea from a person who cannot afford to give more, will be received with the most attentive consideration." The success of his lozenges in female complaints is testified by about a dozen letters, the greater part of them without dates or names. Of these productions let the reader take a specimen.

" Sir,

" I will beg the favour of you to send me another large box of your lozenges, for which *I enclose the money*. I have taken two guinea boxes, and am very much amended in health, and I mean to take a third box of them in order to give them a fair trial; I have very little remains of any illness, and am, &c. &c."

That the book has had a very extensive circulation is extremely probable. Obscenity is sure to find purchasers; and the curiosity of the vulgar and depraved is excited by the ingenious device of selling the pamphlets in an envelope, of which it is requested that "the seal may not be broken by any but females." But the profits of the sale, considerable as they must have been, were of no importance in comparison with the circulation of the cases; and that no female may be at a loss on what occasions to apply, he has inserted the subjoined table, and introduced it by an assertion that "he has found the Steel Lozenges *invariably* efficacious in the symptoms occasioned by female *irregularities*, &c."

Nausea and vomiting	Heat and pain, with a degree of
Wind in the stomach and bowels	moisture * * * * *
Indigestion	Dimness of sight
Loss of appetite	Confusion of sight

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† *Hiatus valde deplendus!*

Weakness of sight, with a sense of weight over the eye-lids	Pains in the Loins
Palpitations of the heart	Difficulty of breathing
Lowness of spirits	Heat of urine
Swelling of the belly, as if puffed up with wind	Alternate flushings of heat and chillness
Swelling of the legs, feet, and ancles	Gelatinous or fleshy substances discharged
<i>Rumbling noise in the inside of the body.</i>	Tremors
Pains in the Head	Faintings
——— Limbs	Watching
——— Belly	<i>Agitation</i>
——— Back	Anxiety
	Frightful dreams, &c. &c.

What does the doctor mean by a rumbling noise in the belly? Perhaps he remembers the story of James Buchanan, with whom a courtier having bet a wager that he could not complete a couplet of which he should give him the first line, and having proposed for the experiment

*My belly rumbled, and then I \* \* \* \**

Buchanan immediately replied,

*A fool and his money are soon parted.*

Perhaps the last line might be applied correctly to the *doctor's patients!*

Since the removal of Messrs. Parsons, the publishers of this treatise, from Ludgate-hill, the doctor has resided chiefly in Bloomsbury, where he has again appeared, not only as a medical adviser, but in the equally familiar character of a money-lender. Profuse, and yet vulgar in his habits, his life is a constant alternation of beggary and extravagance. One Price, originally an attorney's clerk, is the principal instrument of his deceptions, which are practiced with less success than ingenuity.

If the *Treatise on Female Complaints* be bad, the *Medical Monitor*, written since his removal to Southampton-row is abominable. When we expressed ourselves

in terms of considerable warmth against the productions of Brodum and Solomon, we had no idea that their infamy could be exceeded. But Dr. Senate has convinced us of our mistake: the Medical Monitor is, in fact, a systematic exposition of obscenity, and its pages are exclusively devoted to an explanation of subjects connected with the following extract from Dr. Tissot. "*FILLOXYLINO flaccidius veretrum, omnisque erectionis impotens, semen quidem neque sollicitatum effluere sinit, nequaquam vere ejaculat: adeo ceterum imminutum et retractum, ut oculi de sexu vix judicari possint.*"

The doctor defends his indecency of description on the ground of necessity; but if he had read the first volume of Buffon he would have seen that it is possible to be communicative on subjects of this nature, without relaxing from the rigid frigidity of philosophical language. There was no occasion, in describing the consequences of secret vice, to insert the letter of a husband, whose "wife for *him*, was a virgin at the end of fifteen years after the union," or to describe the *modus titillandi*, resorted to by female salacity; and, even admitting, that digressions of this kind were not totally irrelevant to the purpose of his work, it would be as well for the doctor to consider whether the number of those who are corrupted by his information, be not greater than those who are reformed by his admonition.

It should be impressed upon the mind of every valetudinarian, that the majority of quacks are devoid of principle, and that those who have any sensibility of conscience are proportionably ignorant: that as they are without friends or education, they have no responsibility of character, nor any knowledge of the structure or affections of the human frame; that if their medicines be really efficacious, their administration requires the utmost prudence and address; but that in general they

are only innocent when they are totally inefficacious; and that those mistakes which are merely incidental to the practice of the regular physician, are the *inevitable* attendants of empiricism.

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## MR. WILLIAM TAYLOR,

### *Of the Opera-House.*

THERE are some men so totally destitute of any respectable talents, or any amiable qualities, that the biographer who endeavours to present a faithful sketch of their moral and intellectual features is unwillingly condemned to delineate an undisguised and obtrusive picture of deformity. It is pleasing to the satirist to demonstrate by some faint touches of deserved praise, that his portraits are not merely the caricatures of prejudice or passion; but when his duty compels him to hold up to the public notice, a character so thoroughly despicable as that of a King or a ————; when it is necessary that he should describe a man of narrow intellects, vulgar habits, and imperfect education; possessed of no principle of honesty or sentiments of honour; without the feelings of a clown, or the manners of a gentleman; cunning and yet obstinate; mean, yet ostentatious; insolent to a superior on whom his fortune may depend, yet willing to truckle for the loan of a guinea to the meanest servant of his acquaintances; it is in vain that a writer endeavours to discover some quality that may palliate his vices and excuse his errors. It is the misfortune of characters like these, that they frequently pursue, by circuitous and dangerous paths, the very objects to which the plain and downright road of honesty and truth would have brought them with facility; without any just or regular principle of

action, their cunning only teaches the persons whom it is intended to deceive the necessity of wariness; their blustering, instead of confounding opposition, only aggravates animosity, and their servility rather excites contempt than conciliates esteem.

The manager of the Opera, (to whom the preceding observations are of course irrelevant,) originally filled the office of clerk to a banking-house in Jermyn-street. Having in a long course of servitude, amassed about three thousand pounds, accident introduced him to Sheridan, who agreed, on his giving security for the payment of that sum, and on his entering into a bond for an additional advance at the end of the season, to admit him as a partner in the concern. In November, 1779, therefore, he appeared in the treasury, and by the judicious employment of his three thousand pounds in the discharge of small bills left in arrear from the preceding season, and the ostentation of his promises, he contrived to procure credit from the principal tradesmen, who, it is almost needless to add, were considerable sufferers by their indiscretion. His usual mode of address, to those who presented trifling demands was, "Weel, and what is yere bill now, d——n ye all thegether, ye wad ha been all starv'd, an it had'nt been for me; I'm come here to keep ye all fra starving, ye'll all be paid now." His manner of address accorded extremely well with his manner and appearance; for even when honoured by the visits of any of the nobility connected with the Opera, it was his usual custom to stand with his back to the fire, and his hands in his pockets, whistling the elegant and delightful tune of Moll of the Wood. In grossness and vulgarity, indeed, he still continues to enjoy an enviable pre-eminence.

After the second season, he purchased the property of Sheridan, for about one hundred thousand pounds; the latter was known to be insolvent, but Mr. Taylor had been able to diffuse a very general persuasion that he was a *man of property*; the creditors, therefore, released Sheridan, and his debts were transferred to Taylor.—

Whatever part of the purchase money was afterwards received by Mr. Sheridan, was from a stipulated share of the receipts of the house. On the third season, in 1782, our hero projected an alteration of the theatre, and Novoschelski undertook to borrow the necessary sum on the joint acceptances of the manager and himself. In the course of the next summer, 1783, when the bills became due, Taylor was not to be found. At the instance of Novoschelski, a deed was prepared under eight trustees; and the holders of the bills were induced (on what grounds we are not aware) to relinquish their claims on himself by signing the deed. The retreat of Taylor was at length discovered, and this paragon of managers paid an involuntary visit to the Fleet.

To ridicule misfortune, is a crime of which neither our temper nor our habits permit us to be guilty; but the circumstances attending this imprisonment of Mr. Taylor leave him no claim on our compassionate forbearance. No man is justified in undertaking a concern like that of the Opera-house, unless he be in the *actual* possession of very considerable property; but when the management is undertaken by a person whose actual fortune would scarcely pay for the scenery and the dresses, what are we to suppose, but that he is resolved by a desperate venture, to grow rich at the expence of his deluded creditors. Of all the situations in which an unprincipled man may practice swindling successfully, that of a manager is the most eligible. If he can procure credit, and cajole the performers for a single year, the receipts will remunerate him very handsomely for his trouble. He may then bid defiance to the victims of his art, and take refuge in a prison. His rambles may thus be circumscribed, but even within the rules of the Fleet all the sensual passions can be gratified.

During the period of his management, he took into "keeping," (as it was then called) a Miss Prudina, whose mother lived with the happy couple as house-keeper. Immediately previous to Mr. Taylor's removal

to the Fleet, the lady fell dangerously ill, and wishing to die an *honest woman*, implored her protector to marry her. For many weeks he eluded the request, but having been at last assured by her physician that there was no prospect of recovery, he thought, for private reasons, that there could be no danger in compliance, and Mrs. Taylor died a few days after the performance of the ceremony.

After a probation of nearly two years in the Fleet, he contrived (by means which no one has ever been able to conjecture) to procure his liberation. During his imprisonment, Brodie, the door-keeper, whenever he received a present from the nobility, ran with his half guinea to relieve the distresses of his old master, and but for his misplaced attachment, he might have perished of hunger. Taylor's professions of gratitude were warm, and repeated; but he no sooner obtained his liberty, than he discarded him on account of his old age, without returning his benefactions, or paying him the arrears of his wages!

Of the journey of Grant, the swindler, into Norfolk, of the young lady who fell a prey to the devices of his companion, of the manner in which he became possessed of her father's property, and the cruelty with which, after having stripped the old gentleman of his all, he left him to perish in a work-house, we do not think it prudent to relate the particulars till we are able to substantiate their correctness by legal evidence. Whether they have any relation to Mr. Taylor, or whether we are acquainted with any other circumstances attending his career, may probably be shewn in the Appendix to our next number. At present we shall only relate that in the year 1803, the Mr. Goold, whom he has since designated as a swindler, a rascal, and a villain, found him at Paris without shoes or stockings; cloathed, and fed him till his return to England, and paid the expences of his passage; his gratitude has been nobly manifested in his behaviour to his executors.

Of his character, more will be said in the course of

this article ; but that we may give a connected view of the subject which now occupies the attention of the subscribers, we shall merely state that from 1793 to 1802, and from 1806 to the present time, he has been sole manager of the Opera-house. Of his ungentlemanly conduct to Mr. Waters, a conduct disgraceful to himself, and injurious to the concern, our readers will find a very extraordinary statement in Mr. W.'s *Opera Glass*.

The Italian Opera was designed for the recreation of the higher classes of the community, and it differed from our national theatres inasmuch as the funds were to be provided for its support before even the entertainment began, leaving a sure profit to the undertaker. As this profit could not fail of being very large, the gift of such monopoly (for it was decided that only one establishment of this kind should exist,) was one of very great advantage to the fortunate holder, and in order to render himself deserving of it, he very readily agreed to bind himself under certain regulations and restrictions, which he consented to adhere to as long as the licence should be vested in his hands. On the other hand, by way of encouraging him to act uprightly and fairly by the subscribers, and to induce him to maintain this establishment in all the splendour and excellence of which it was susceptible, a kind of understanding took place between the licenser and the licensee, that the proprietor should not be removed from any capricious motive, nor any rival theatre be permitted to exist.

Such was the state of the Opera when Mr. Taylor opened his New Theatre in the Haymarket, in the year 1793.

The house contained (with the addition of some added a few years afterwards,) one hundred and seventy-four boxes, and of these, the proprietor was allowed to lease out sixty-six. Thereby acquiring the means of building a theatre, but lessening, at the same time, the funds of the Opera. He was also allowed to lessen the receipts of the pit and gallery by disposing of two hundred and fifty or three hundred silver tickets, sold each for

one hundred pounds, making a sum of twenty-five or thirty thousand pounds, and which, added to sixty-nine thousand, three hundred pounds, enabled him to commence this establishment, with a capital of nearly one hundred and three thousand, three hundred pounds; and he, moreover, borrowed on debentures fifteen thousand pounds more, which he charged on the house. He, however, took upon himself, debts amounting to nearly seventy thousand pounds, which he agreed to pay off, by the incoming profits. With the subscribers, he entered into a solemn contract, not to make the price of a box more than one hundred and eighty guineas; to bestow boxes upon ladies of the first distinction, and never to turn out one of the possessors of a box, unless she failed to pay her rent. Here, we have a full and clear view of the state of the Opera, from the year 1793 to 1804; when Mr. Taylor, having involved the whole concern in great difficulties, or rather himself, for the profits being in trustees hands, and going gradually to liquidate the debt, he determined at once to emancipate himself from what he thought bondage, and he agreed to sell to Mr. Goold, seven-sixteenths of the whole property, enabling himself thus to leave the property free of incumbrance, and to get rid of the trust altogether.

Mr. Goold, however, stipulated for having the management in his own hands, and finding, after two years that the estate was not so immediately productive as he expected, (and not taking into due consideration the great and enormous advantages that were daily accruing to the proprietors from the property boxes, many of the leases falling in, in 1817 or 18, and the whole 66 in 1825, as well as two hundred and fifty or three hundred silver tickets,) determined to raise the price of every box sixty guineas, a measure perfectly unjust, but countenanced by the possessors of property boxes, as those boxes always let from fifty to one hundred pounds more than the subscription boxes.

Mr. Taylor saw this determination on the part of Mr. Goold, with very great disapprobation, and he addressed himself\* in the most emphatic manner to the subscribers, called upon them to resist the innovation, declared it from his own knowledge to be unnecessary, stated it as likely to produce the utter ruin of the property, and marked it as the most atrocious act of perfidy, fraud and injustice ever committed, and contrary to the solemn tenure by which the license was held.

Mr. Goold, however, after having previously submitted the necessity of his proposed advance to a committee, and obtained its entire approbation; (a measure which has not been followed by Mr. Taylor,) carried the measure into effect, and the result was, that the profit of the ensuing season was near ten thousand pounds.

Not more, however, than four years have elapsed since the rise took place so condemned by Mr. Taylor, and yet he himself now thinks proper, in his letter dated the 22d of November, of which we extracted the most extraordinary passages in our last number, to exact from every lady an additional sixty guineas for her box, adding a threat, that unless the demand is complied with, he will dispose of the boxes to other candidates, a threat he has carried into effect; and the removal from boxes would have been much more general, had not the fears of losing their boxes at the Opera for ever, induced most of the subscribers to submit to this most unwarrantable tax, rendered more galling by all the circumstances of deliberate insolence which has attended it.

Mr. Taylor estimates his loss for four years preceding 1808, at fifteen thousand, two hundred and sixty-one pounds, two shillings, and nine pence, or nearly three thousand eight hundred and ten pounds annually. He likewise estimates the loss in 1808, at three thousand pounds, and in 1809, at four thousand, four hundred,

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\* See extract from his letter in the Report.

and eighty-eight pounds, fourteen shillings and ninepence, and calculates, that if the house had been insured at its full value, the loss in these two last years would have been twelve thousand four hundred and twenty-six pounds, fourteen shillings and ninepence.

Let us now see, from the statements submitted to the committee, and from their report on these statements, whether, independent of the question of right, Mr. Taylor has any just claim on our generosity.

I.

Mr. Sequin's Comparative Statement of Expences and Receipts.

	1804 & 1805.	1805 & 1806.	1806 & 1807.
Performers salaries .	£ 11700	£ 12650	£ 13580
Figurantes .	1550	1850	1770
Chorus singers .	860	780	730
Band .	3000	3000	2800
Servants, and dresses	900	860	890
Lighting .	1100	1230	1060
Guards .	300	310	400
Carpenters .	1000	1350	1050
Scene painters .	220	650	270
Wardrobe, and property- room }	1640	3250	1500
Advertising and printing	350	300	450
Copying music	340	360	360
Rent, taxes, and insur- ances }	3100	3250	3200
Sundries, bricklayers, sweeper's bills, tick- ets, &c. }	900	900	3000
Debts incurred .	5600	2560	2200
	£ 32560	£ 33280	£ 33270
Receipts, subscriptions	20020	19070	24400
At doors .	12050	12900	17030
	£ 32070	£ 32600	£ 41430
	Loss £ 490	Loss £ 686	Gain £ 8160
Performers in these years	Billington and Grassini, De Hayes and La- borie, Viga- noni and Bra- ham.	Billington and Grassini, De Hayes and La- borie, Naldi.	Catalani Naldi De Hayes

## II.

## MR. BONNER'S STATEMENT. 1807—8.

## RECEIPTS.

Subscriptions . . . . .	£ 21298 15 0
At doors . . . . .	10862 5 6
	<hr/>
	£ 32161 0 6

## DISBURSEMENTS.

Expences previous to commence- ment of performances . . . . .	£ 752 4 0
<i>A regular series of charges</i> . . . . .	35126 0 10
12 Bills unpaid . . . . .	386 3 3
	<hr/>
	35512 4 1
	<hr/>
	Loss 3551 3 7

Subscriptions . . . . .	£ 23487 15 0
Receipts at the doors . . . . .	10985 1 0
Rent from Drury-lane company . . . . .	628 12 0
Benefit-night rents . . . . .	305 0 0
	<hr/>
	£ 35406 8 0

Disbursements . . . . .	£ 34774 2 6
11 Unpaid tradesmen's bills . . . . .	1570 4 2
	<hr/>
	36344 6 8
	<hr/>
	Loss 937 18 8

Mem. Of the tradesmen's bills 4 to the amount of £ 898 9 6 were not produced.

Fair insurance for 1807, supposing the property to be worth £ 150,000, as it was worth £ 115,000 twenty years ago, and Covent Garden is estimated at £ 220,000. It must be observed, that after the destruction of Covent Garden the rate of insurance on theatrical property rose from 2 to 4 per cent.

erty rose from 2 to 4 per cent.	£ 3000 0 0	
Actually insured £ 24,000 for	354 0 0	
	<hr/>	2646 0 0
Difference between fair and actual insur-		
ance for 1808—9 (after the fire)		5992 0 0

Loss in the two seasons . £ 13,427 2 3  
(Signed) CHARLES BONNER.

III.  
VIEW.

(Affixed to the Committee's report), into the expenditure, and receipts of the last season, 1809--10, and the committee are perfectly satisfied, that the profit arising to the proprietors, notwithstanding every disadvantage from wasteful and improvident management, amounted to some thousands of pounds.

Recapitulation of opera receipts, and expences for season 1809--10, as per book, in the possession of Mr. Masterson,

	£	s.	d.
By door receipts . . . . .	12,045	2	6
	23,930	15	0
	<hr/>		
	£35,975	17	6

Boxes ascertained to have been let, but not brought to account, when such book was first produced,

viz. 109, 110, 111, at 200 guineas . . . . .	530
37 Pitt . . . . .	252
92 estimated . . . . .	250
LVIII. Lord Somerville's estimation . . . . .	315
XXI. Ground tier, Lord Aboyne . . . . .	252

£1,659 0 0

106 Claimed by Mr. Glossop as bought for a term of fourteen years to come.

Rents for benefits not brought to account in the said book, viz.

Mr. Naldi . . . . .	50
Mr. De Hayes . . . . .	free
Madame Catalani . . . . .	free
Mr. Tremanzani . . . . .	50
Madame Angiolini . . . . .	50
Mr. Kelly . . . . .	50

Coffee room rent claimed by Mr. Taylor, as his exclusive property . . . . .

63 0 0

£37,897 17 6

Expences extracted from said book

34,835 13 7

3,062 3 11

Payments belonging to former seasons . . . . .

371 2 10

Expences not allowed for, candles, &c. (the lighting has been done in former seasons for less than sixteen pounds a night) . . . . .

237 8 5

Lampman's bills, not belonging to this year . . . . .

52 7 6

Balance in favour of the proprietors

3,723 2 3

	£ s. d.
Brought forward . . .	3723 2 6
Difference between amount of subscriptions in Mr. Masterman's book, added to what has been ascertained since, and the probable actual receipt: Mr. Taylor never accounting for more than two hundred and forty guineas, even for the best boxes . . .	838 5 0
N.B. Several boxes in gallery circle, slips are not taken into the account.	
106 Subscription boxes	
66 Private property boxes	

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172 Boxes in Opera house

Returned balance in favour of proprietors . . .	4,561 7 8
Payments for which there are no vouchers, or to be paid by acceptances not yet due, and salaries unpaid	

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MEMORANDA.

	£ s. d.
Salaries of principal performers, December 28, 1806 . . . . .	17,780 0 0
Ditto last year about . . . . .	12,000 0 0
Proposed increase of subscriptions will amount to . . . . .	4,300 0 0
Two Letter boxes have been given to Mr. Taylor, for altering the theatre subsequent to the 60 already mentioned	
Number of subscription boxes, at £ 252 . . . . .	100
Number inferior boxes . . . . .	25
	<hr/>
House boxes . . . . .	125
Property boxes . . . . .	70
	<hr/>
Total boxes . . . . .	195

About one half of the silver tickets expired last year.

All the subscription boxes, except two, were let last year, two were let at three hundred guineas. Mr. Shalmerdine took eight or ten.

To the Report itself, and the documents by which it is accompanied, nothing can be added. But we beg leave to observe, that throughout the whole of the business, Mr. Taylor's conduct has been in the highest degree indecorous and reprehensible: in our last number we noticed in terms of marked disapprobation, the language of

his first address: but his subsequent conduct makes it doubtful whether he is to be despised as a fool, or pitied as a lunatic. Instead of endeavouring to conciliate the subscribers, he assails them personally through the medium of the newspapers, in terms of the most rancorous abuse, and far from displaying any wish to account for the errors in his statements, he endeavours to prove that some individual members of the committee have been engaged in clandestine negotiations for boxes. But if he knew this of any member of the committee, after he promised to abide by its opinion, he knew it likewise before: he should therefore have mentioned it as a ground of objection to his being of the committee. If the manager objects to Lord Bruce, the committee has much more reason to be dissatisfied with Count O'Kelly. The infamous attempts of Taylor to prevent the attendance of obnoxious persons, by inviting the committee to hold their first meeting at the Opera House, from which he has of course the power of exclusion, was fortunately discovered by the proposal of a question to Mr. Reed, who answered that Mr. Taylor had given orders that *he should not be admitted*: on this intimation the committee immediately adjourned to the Thatched-house: his great object was evidently to prolong the deliberations of the committee, and to make the delay a pretext of refusal to submit to their decision.

He declares that the Mr. *Bonner* whom he commissioned to draw up No. II. is a stranger to him: now this declaration we affirm to be an impudent falsehood. We have seen him in the company of Mr. Taylor more than three years ago: besides, though Mr. Bonner may be a very ingenious projector of "National Institutions, for the Exhibition of rare and new Inventions," though he may have *acted* a very busy part on a more extensive theatre than the Haymarket, and may now succeed in spoiling the Pantheon, he is deficient in the technical routine of Opera accomptantship, and is not qualified by nature for minute and industrious investigation. We believe him to be a very honest and very clever man, but

he is just as able to investigate accounts, as the manager to write a didactic poem on the *Pleasures of Virtue*.

How well Mr. Taylor is qualified for the situation that he holds, may be conjectured from the character of his instruments and associates.

The Mr. Shelmadine through whose medium he has received payments for the boxes, and whose name is mentioned in the memoranda, was originally a kind of porter in the carpenter's room, he was afterwards employed by Mr. Reed, the treasurer, to carry messages to Mr. Taylor, to whose favour and protection he was probably recommended by the *amiable innocence* of expression that adorned his countenance. Of the means by which he has risen to affluence, no exposition will be required after reading the memoranda we have subjoined to the Report.

The character of the person who has returned to his service, cannot be expressed but by language which it is impossible to employ. Mr. Waters relates in his pamphlet, that the greatest obstacle to a satisfactory arbitration between himself and Mr. Taylor was to find any gentleman who would meet Mr. D'Egville.

But the favorite repository of his secrets, and the person to whom his affairs are principally entrusted, is the mistress of a pothouse at Battersea, whose husband, we believe, is confined to the humble occupation of serving ale, while his lady undertakes the management of the OPERA. Neither the patching up of a new scene, (which in the Haymarket is much more frequent than the payment of an old debt), nor the negociation for a box, can be completed without this woman's immediate and authoritative superintendence: and many a lady of fashion, or nobleman of rank, have had their correspondence submitted to the inspection and approval of a *ci-devant* laundress. We suppose that she was the manufacturer of the polite advertisement to the female subscribers to the Opera, that "gin and purl might be obtained at the doors of the committee room for a shilling." If Mr. Taylor's embarrassments be admitted as an excuse for his non-attendance at the theatre, he might surely select a deputy more

respectable than the doxy of a tapster, and more decent factotums than an exiled MONSTER, a *eunuch* who cannot sing, and an adventurer who ought to be a *eunuch*.

Admitting for a moment that the disbursements of Mr. Taylor's treasury are greater than its receipts, it is requisite before he demands an addition to the former price of his subscription that he should give œconomy in the management of his expences, and that the former subscriptions have been applied in a way of all others the most productive of gratification to the subscribers. But that a great part of the income of the theatre is improvidently applied, and that the receipts are considerably diminished by the arrangements which his necessities have compelled him to make with his *personal* creditors, (though at his first examination he positively denied that any of the boxes were mortgaged for the payment of his debts,) is too notorious for dispute. Mr. Schelmadine knows his affairs too well to trouble himself with any negotiations for a less commission than fifty per cent.; and Mr. Taylor when he enters into a compromise with importunate tradesmen is not always in a situation to make an advantageous bargain: and it may be reasonably supposed that he is sometimes willing to purchase immediate relief at the expence of future embarrassment.

Till the present year we have not seen a tolerable company. A Catalani in the vocal department, and a De Hayes in the ballet, have served by the force of contrast to shew the wretchedness of the Dusseks and the Boisgerards. The present establishment has been formed by Mr. Taylor for the purpose of cajoling the subscribers into compliance with his wishes, and would have been reduced or depreciated as soon as his triumph over our good-nature had been complete. Yet it appears, according to his own statement, that the present company is not much more expensive than those of the years 1808 and 1809. He is himself an evidence, therefore, of his own mismanagement. But the most important objection to the advance does not seem to have occurred to the members of

the committee—if the *present* subscription be inadequate to the support of the theatre in its present state, the *additional* subscription will be insufficient to support it as it *ought to be*. To put the scenes and machinery into decent order would require nearly three years purchase of the proposed advance. The wardrobe is in a most deplorable state; no man whose olfactory nerves perform their office can venture behind the scenes, and the *toute ensemble* of the house bears a general character of meanness, nastiness, and poverty.

Mr. Taylor tacitly acknowledges that the proposed subscription would make the income fully equal to the expenditure. But if it be equal to the expenditure of the present Opera-house, it would be more *than equal* to the expenditure of a theatre under a different system and in more favourable circumstances: rather, therefore, than submit to the manager's imposition, let the suggestions of Colonel Greville be considered with attention, and every effort be directed to the means of their accomplishment.

That a person who dare not make his appearance at the theatre, must be unable to conduct a concern so extensive as the Opera House, with satisfaction to the proprietors, or credit to himself, is sufficiently apparent: if Mr. Taylor, therefore, is unwilling to resign his situation, it is but just that another licence should be granted; and whether the management of the present theatre be changed, or a new one be erected, it is evident that no alteration *can be* for the worse. We are anxious beyond measure, that the proceedings of the persons who have stood forward as the champions of the other subscribers, may be firm and desisive: they have at the present moment much in their power, and it remains with them, whether we shall yet have an Italian opera, in which neither the scenery shall be rags, nor the stage a dunghill.

## OPERA COMMITTEE.

The Marquis of Douglass.	Sir William Abdy.
Earl Gower.	The Hon. Arthur Upton.
Lord George Henry Cavendish.	The Hon. James Macdonald.
Viscount Dillon.	Colonel O'Kelly.
Viscount Ossulston.	Henry Bankes, Esq.
Viscount Hinchinbrooke.	Michael Angelo Taylor, Esq.
Lord Keith.	William Cavendish, Esq.
Lord Bruce.	Henry Francis Greville, Esq.
Lord Hawke.	—— Powell, Esq.
Sir Watkins William Wynne, Bart.	—— Blatchford, Esq.
Sir Henry Wilson.	

The above committee appointed at a general meeting of the subscribers to the Opera for the purpose of enquiring into the causes of the increased rate of subscription, and also into the manager's motives for writing so offensive a circular letter, bearing date the 23d of November last, to the subscribers, have agreed to the following report :

## REPORT.

The committee having examined the Opera accounts of the last season, so far as they were made up, are of opinion that no cause whatever has existed to authorise any increase of the annual subscription for the boxes.

From a paper which has been laid before them, written by Mr. Taylor himself, in 1806, it appears that the increase of the subscription demanded at that time by the late manager Mr. Gould, were then unnecessary, the resources of the Opera being perfectly adequate, under proper management, to meet every possible charge. That the committee to whom Mr. Gould's accounts were submitted and by whom the advance of subscription was sanctioned, appears to have been imposed upon by a fallacious statement of former losses to the proprietor, whereas from the year 1793 to the year 1802, when Mr. Taylor quitted the direction, the concern yielded an average gain of six thousand pounds per annum, being a gross profit of fifty-four thousand pounds in the short space of nine years, although during the whole of that period the subscription never exceeded one hundred and eighty guineas each box. The committee have thought proper to quote a passage in Mr. Taylor's letter as authority for this opinion, "and so untrue is it that the receipt from 1795 to 1802, did not cover the expence, which is limited to about twenty-four thousand pounds, that during that period the receipt reached the average of thirty thousand pounds." (Vide article 5, answer to the report, 1806.)

It has furthermore appeared to the committee by a similar statement of Mr. Taylor, and which statement is annexed, that the year 1803-4, was probably a bad season, owing to disputes among the trustees and proprietors, whereby most serious losses were sustained, amounting, as appears to the committee, from a document of an account made out by the sub-treasurer employed by Mr. Gould in the year 1805, to have been not less than five thousand six hundred pounds.

Vide article 718, Mr. Taylor's letter.

"Of the season 1802—3, I know nothing, but that of 1804 is not a criterion to be taken, because for that year engagements were made by trustees as well as by the proprietors (both contending for the right to manage,) and in some instances a double set was retained, and a double expence incurred. at least a compromise took place by which an excessive load of unnecessary expence was left upon the undertaking, the misfortune of which, however, along with the cause of it, ended with that season.

That in the year 1805—6, there appears, from the same document of account, and which is annexed to this report, a considerable balance in favour of the Opera, in lieu of a loss as was stated, and in the succeeding season, the last year of Mr. Gould's management, the subscription having been raised sixty guineas each box, a profit of upwards of ten thousand pounds accrued to the proprietors.

This committee have also had an opportunity of obtaining a view into the accounts of the last season 1809—10, and are strongly of opinion that the profits arising to the proprietors, notwithstanding every disadvantage from wasteful and improvident management, must have amounted to some thousands of pounds: this statement of account the committee have ordered to be annexed to the report.

It has also been stated to the committee, from a statement made by Mr. Waters, that one hundred silver tickets and upwards will become extinct this season, by which, if true, the future receipts of the Opera-house will be increased at least two thousand pounds per annum. A desire to ascertain the exact number induced the committee to apply to the Opera-office, to which application a verbal answer was sent that nothing was known there about them. Here the committee thinks it necessary to remark that Mr. Taylor has stated to them, in justification of his encreasing this subscription, that he has by engagements with performers of great talent added to the expences of the establishment five thousand six hundred pounds beyond the expence of last year.

The committee having taken into consideration the whole of the above statements, are of opinion, that supposing the manager ever had power to raise the subscription whenever he chose, and to whatever amount he pleased, the measure was no way dictated by necessity.

The committee next proceeded to consider of the right in an Opera manager to raise arbitrarily the subscription, to alter established regulations, and to turn subscribers out of their boxes who should refuse to comply with his demands: on this head the committee have thought it best to refer the subscribers to Mr. Taylor's own opinion, extracted from his observations in his letter on Mr. Gould's management, written in the year 1806, and they have thought proper to submit to the general meeting the following extracts:

#### EXTRACTS FROM MR. TAYLOR'S LETTERS.

"That it would be a breach of good faith with the old subscribers to call upon them for any augmentation of subscription unless founded on real necessity, and of which the subscribers ought to be made the judges." That the report of that committee (viz. 1806.) is dated in the early part of June,

when many of the subscribers were yet in town, yet it is not communicated to them before the close of October, a period of the year of all others when people of fashion are absent in the country, and generally at great distances from one another, and it is then sent under a sort of menace that if by a particular day they do not comply, (without time to consult one another,) with the proposed exaction or forced contribution, their boxes will be declared vacant and disposed of accordingly: a menace as unworthy to be employed to the first classes of the community as it is in itself improper; for the fact is, that so far is the said manager from having the power of removing any of the old subscribers, that he has not even the faculty of disposing legally of any vacant box, without my special sanction stated in writing. (N.B. This restrictive clause in the deed, it appears, applies equally to proprietors Gould and Taylor, now Waters and Taylor,) consequently subscribers who have already, or may hereafter obtain boxes from him without such sanction, will be liable at any time to be removed from them.

"The subscribers have now before them a report containing the grounds on which they are called upon for a very large augmentation of subscription; they have also under their view a counter-statement, in which I positively deny the truth of every article of that report. The matter therefore is now fairly at issue. On my part I am ready to produce deeds and writings incontestibly to establish my assertions: let a committee of subscribers investigate the truth, and they can at the same time enquire whether or no the present manager, who calls for this increase, has acted conformably to his powers, and to the long established customs and regulations of the management, and whether with a management otherwise regulated by and confined within the proper and prescribed limits, the present state of subscription is not at this time fully adequate, with real and just benefit to the undertaking, and those interested in it, to defray all the necessary, proper, and useful expences of carrying on operas in this country.

"In the mean time, and until such an investigation can take place, it is alone necessary for the old subscribers, in order to secure a continuance in their boxes, to pay the usual and established subscription of one hundred and eighty guineas for each box."

The committee enclosing this report wish to submit to the subscribers whether it may not be proper at this meeting, to express an opinion with regard to the continuance of the management in Mr. Taylor's hands, and are decidedly themselves convinced that Mr. Taylor's conduct has been unprecedented and offensive in the extreme.

The committee enclosing this report cannot help expressing their opinion that Mr. Taylor's conduct and language used in his last circular letter to the subscribers, has been to a degree offensive and disrespectful, and they wish to submit to the subscribers whether it may not be proper to express their sentiments as to the impropriety of continuing the management of the Opera any longer in Mr. Taylor's hands.

"The committee enclosing this report beg to submit to the consideration of the general meeting, how far it may be advisable to take measures to remove Mr. Taylor from the management of the Opera, and cannot refrain from expressing their pointed disapprobation of the language and conduct adopted by Mr. Taylor towards the subscribers."

## The Establishment of Principal Performers engaged for 1811.

## SINGERS.

Madame Catalani.  
 Madame Bertinotti.\*  
 Madame Collini.  
 Madame Cauvini.\*  
 Madame Bianchi.  
 Signor Tramezzani.  
 Signor Naldi.  
 Signor Cauvini.\*  
 Signor Rovedini.  
 Signor Miartini.  
 Composer, Signor Pucitta.  
 Leader and director of the Orchestra,  
 Mr. Weichsel.

## DANCERS.

Monsieur Deshayes, who has power  
 to engage and bring from Paris a  
 partner for himself.\*  
 Monsieur Vestris.

Monsieur Moreau.  
 Monsieur Bourdin.  
 Master Byrne.  
 Madame Angiolini.  
 Madame Monroy.  
 Mademoiselle Nora.  
 Miss Smith, Pupil of M. D'Egville.  
 Miss Twamley, ditto.  
 Mademoiselle Cherry, &c.  
 N.B. Mr. Didelot has agreed upon  
 terms, to come from St. Peters-  
 burgh, to be Ballet-master, and  
 perform occasionally character  
 parts; but his arrival, under the  
 present state of intercourse with  
 the continent, is uncertain; in the  
 interim Mr. Rossi will officiate for  
 Mr. Didelot, Madame Didelot will  
 likewise be engaged as a dancer.\*

## SCOURGIANA.

**T**HELWALL (the *ci-devant* demagogue) who has so long been labouring to improve our elocution, is now preparing an academy for teaching grown up gentlemen *elegance of manners*. He has already acquired the bow *a la Charles Kemble*, and is in hopes of attaining the true Hamiltonian shrug, before Lady-day: he enters a room with as mathematical a curvature of his body, and holds his knife and fork at an angle as precise as that paragon of grace, ease, and elegance, Horace Twiss. As a specimen of his wit and "gentility," he observes, that "it is impossible to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, but that *he* never was a *bear* (*bore*)."  
 What accomplished courtiers, and expert ambassadors must they not hereafter be, who have the honour of his present superintendence! By the bye, we are at a loss to conjecture the meaning of an advertisement, which has lately appeared in the *Times*, from the master of an Academy, who professes to qualify young gentlemen for the situations of envoys, consuls, and embassa-

\* This mark denotes new performers.

dors: we suppose that some of his aspiring pupils will be appointed plenipotentiaries to the king of Siam and the senate of Utopia: it might have been as well if Mr. Frere and some of his brethren had not been sent to any place nearer home, or more closely connected with the British empire.

The minister has given Dr. Mansell, the master of Trinity College Cambridge, and Bishop of Bristol, a living of two thousand pounds a year: it is thus that all but the literary partizans of Pittism are rewarded! Dr. Mansell, though an amiable companion, has never been eminent for those acquirements which usually distinguish the dignitaries of the church. He resided at the University, unnoticed and unknown, till the period of Jacobinical turbulence: a meeting having been called together on the Market Hill, for the purpose of drawing up a petition for the dismissal of the minister, he so strenuously exerted himself to defeat the purpose of the democrats, that Mr. Pitt expressed himself in warm terms of gratitude for his conduct, and shortly after procured him the mastership of Trinity, worth three thousand a year: he married a Miss Haggerston, whose sister is the lady of Mr. Ingle, an attorney of Cambridge.

Mr. D'Egrille has resumed his situation at the Opera-house: this gentleman is, we believe, particularly intimate with the *man* who bore in triumphant exhibition through the streets of Paris, the heart of the Princess de Lamballes.

Anthony Pasquin, alias Dr. Williams, who since the failure of his action for libel against Mr. Gifford, (it having been determined that a convicted libeller cannot recover damages for a libel), has not dared to meet the public eye, except anonymously, is about to appear in the character of a monthly "*censor*" of theatricals. Of the entertainment or instruction that may be expected from his dramatic lucubrations, the readers of the *Morning Herald* are the most competent judges; he *hath* a most unconquerable antipathy to *has*.

We are happy to learn, that the little black pander to Mrs. Clarke, has been taught the necessity of good MANNERS, in his nocturnal perambulations. To adopt his own phraseology, he has found the difference between "catching a cold" in rambles through the Park at unseasonable hours, and "catching a Tartar."

Day, the Blacking Manufacturer, now sports his Barouche. The Whip Club having lately held a meeting extraordinary, away he *brushed* to offer himself as a candidate to fill the last vacancy. The very hair-

of the president *bristled* at the proposal, and the application was ultimately refused. Strange that so *shining* a character should be *black-balled*!

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GENERAL SARRAZIN has published a new attack upon his late master, under the form of "Confessions of Bonaparte." It contains nothing more than is to be found in "LEWIS GOLDSMITH'S Secret History," and in *L'Ambigu* of PELTIER. We have no indulgence for the man who after serving beneath a despot, and participating in all his measures, however oppressive or sanguinary, as long as he was flattered with the hope of his subservience being liberally rewarded: he deserts to England, and endeavours to ingratiate himself with its people by obtrusive and rancorous scurrility against the former object of his idolatry. It is true that Bonaparte is a miscreant, but of this miscreant either the General was for many years the tool, or he has now fled from lawful allegiance to his sovereign. He has not yet produced any proofs that Bonaparte was about to punish him unjustly. Whatever his wrongs may be, his feelings as a Frenchman, his respect for his brother officers in arms, and all the sentiments that characterise the soldier and the gentleman should have conspired to repress his ardour for publication. It is impossible that a Frenchman can suddenly become the admirer and friend of the English nation, and the determined foe of a sovereign, under whose banners he has often advanced to victory, without being influenced by unmanly passion, or by sinister motives. Every deserter must, *a priori*, be regarded as a criminal: it is the General's duty if he wishes to be received with respect, to prove that he has not acted like a poltroon. Till then let us hear no more of his dedications to KLEBER, and his letters to the TIMES.

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Mr. Day an oilman of Fenchurch-street, has long had before his door a sable centinel, whose beauties have remained unobserved by the incurious passengers. A short while ago, however, one of the lynx-eyed emissaries of that very christian society, established for the suppression of vice, which forbids Fanny Hill to be sold at the corner of Great Queen-street, and permits its instructions to be practised at Temple-bar, discovered that a certain prominence was of larger dimensions than accorded with his ideas of decency. The society immediately sent Mr. D. a letter, requesting him to increase its curvature, and amputate its length. This intimation was not attended to: we suppose that in the course of time, no artist shall sketch a picture without one of these inquisitors being at hand, to ascertain the precise limits of exposure, and that committees will be appointed to ascertain how many inches make a yard.

We have taken some pains to investigate the grounds of the late accusations against Dr. Browne, the Master of Christ's College Cambridge, and we feel it our duty to declare, that much as we before respected the character of that gentleman, the tendency of the dispute has been to raise it still higher in our estimation. About ten years ago, Dr. Browne, the tutor of Christ's, made two affidavits, at the request of the tutor of Catharine Hall, in a cause in which Dr. Procter, the master, was appellant. This act of justice excited the resentment of the latter gentleman, but that he had made use of the affidavits for the purpose of prejudicing Dr. Browne, in the opinion of the University, did not become evident till the month of November 1810. It is the custom for the heads of Colleges to serve in rotation the office of vice-chancellor, and Dr. Browne was the person who, according to that rotation, ought in that year to have been elected, and having no reason to suppose that there would in his case be any deviation from the usual practice, he had on the fourth of November made the customary preparations for the entertainment of the electors at his lodge, and was taking a hasty repast at one o'clock, that he might be in readiness to receive them, when for the first time a hint was conveyed to him by a friend, that a cabal had been secretly formed in the University to oppose his election. The accuracy of the information, of which Dr. Browne had at first great doubts, was proved by the event, for forty-four members of the Senate voted for Dr. Milner, who was the other head, (for there must be two) nominated on that occasion, and only thirty-two for Dr. Browne.

The motive openly and generally assigned for opposing the *Doctor's* election into the Vice-Chancellorship, was a ridiculous and unfounded charge, that he intended, in case of his obtaining that dignity, to reject the supplicants of all such candidates for the degree of B. A. as had not resided the *whole* (number) of their terms *within the walls* of a college; a calumny well calculated to excite the most serious alarm in the minds of the gentlemen of Trinity and St. John's, both these colleges being usually so crowded, as to render it necessary that many of their fresh-men should have temporary lodgings in the town. But where this idle story was not likely to be received, an accusation of a much more heinous nature was insinuated, which if believed, could not fail to turn every hand and heart against him. This calumny, which was meant probably to be only mysteriously hinted, and cautiously circulated, was soon, either through the exuberant malice or indiscreet zeal of one of his opponents, brought forth into open day-light; for the Rev. Mr. Renouard, a fellow of Sidney College, (a young and obscure member of the University,) declared publicly in the midst of the Senate house, on the day of the election, that Dr. Browne in the cause above referred to had been guilty of PERJURY.

The only ground on which an accusation so infamous was made, appears to have been the assertion, in his affidavit (respecting the removal of a student from Pembroke to Catharine Hall) that he had never heard of there being two kinds of licences to remove,—*known by different names and used for different purposes*. In proof of the charge a copy of a *bene decessit* in a different form from that of a mere *licet migrare* is produced, and said to have been written and signed by Dr. Browne himself, and given prior to the date of his affidavit. Now the Doctor states, with great justice, that his affidavit only implies, that he never knew that differently worded permissions were applied to different purposes, and that in every instance that ever came (or he might have added *could come*) under his cognizance, the person bringing a permission was without hesitation admitted, in whatsoever form the permission was couched; that there is no prescribed form of words, (*and there can therefore be no specific distinction*): and that so far as removal from one college to another was concerned, a *bene decessit* and a *licet migrare* are to all intents and purposes the same. Very fortunately he is enabled to prove the positions by permission, in the precise form of what his enemies call a *licet migrare*," endorsed by the late Dr. Elliston, master of Sidney *bene decessit*. The reason as well as fact is with Dr. Browne; for if a *licet migrare* will (as is admitted on the other side) procure admission to a college without further enquiry, and a *bene decessit* can do no more, in what is the distinction? The counter affidavit of Mr. Park the tutor of Pembroke, and the testimony of Dr. Seale, the senior fellow of Christ's college, with respect to incidental parts, are proved the one to be false, and the other irrelevant. Mr. P.'s affidavit refers to a different day, from that of Dr. Browne, and the letter is confuted by the evidence of Mr. Hopkins.

It is impossible to reflect on the manner in which a charge of this kind has been brought forward, without feeling more than common indignation at the conduct of Dr. Browne's enemies. For many years the assassins of his reputation have brooded over their infamous machinations. An opportunity of gratifying their thirst for revenge did not occur till the period when he was about to receive the last and highest reward that the university is able to bestow on its distinguished members: they then come forward with a false and scandalous accusation, which they have neither the ability to support, nor the courage to avow.

The character of that man must surely be more than usually exemplary, against whom his enemies can find no other, or more recent instruments of vengeance, than an extract from an affidavit that was sworn, and the report of a conversation that occurred eleven years ago. If they had no regard for justice, they should have had some care for their own reputation.

When it is considered that the leaders and organizers of the opposition were men of power and influence in the two great colleges of Trinity and St. John's, and that twenty-nine out of the forty-four who voted for Dr. Millner were of those societies: when it is considered that these leaders with all the effect which the artful representation about the supplicants could produce, co-operating with all the weight which influence could give, and all the activity which malice could inspire, could only bring forty-four members of the senate to join in their attack on Dr. Browne, while thirty-four gentlemen unsolicited by him voluntarily came forward in his favour: When these circumstances are considered, Dr. Browne's rejection was in fact what his enemies felt it to be, a TRIUMPH over *falsehood and injustice*.

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## THEATRICAL REVIEW.

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Nullius addictus jurare in verba magistri;  
Quo me cunque rapit tempestas deferor *hopes*.

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OPERA-HOUSE.—So much of our time and attention has during the present and great part of the preceding month, been devoted to the operations of the committee, that we are unable to speak of the new performers or performances. Were we to adopt the usual mode, indeed, of theatrical criticism, we might favour our readers with a very instructive and entertaining criticism on the last opera which we have not seen, and on Signor Cauvini whom we have not heard. Of the former we might say that its plot like that of the greater number of Operas was of secondary importance, and subservient to the display of the principal performers in striking situations, that the music was like the other compositions of the modern masters rather affective than pathetic or sublime, and in our estimate of the merits of Cauvini it would be extremely easy to astonish the inexperienced and confound the ignorant by ringing the usual changes on "depth of intonation," "accordance of musical expression with vocal effect," and "emultaneous expansion of the soul in threading themazes of modulation."

LYCEUM.—Of LOST and FOUND the following are the Dramatic Personæ,

Sir Frederic Flimsy,	Mr. Russel.
Sir Testy Supple,	Mr. Downton.
Mr. Wilmot,	Mr. Wroughton.

Old Ledger,	Mr. Lovegrove.
Harry Ledger,	Mr. Wrench.
Charles Hastings,	Mr. Holland.
Bustle,	Mr. De Camp.
Quirk,	Mr. Penley.
Daniel,	Mr. Oxberry.
Lady Supple,	Mrs. Sparkes.
Miss Supple,	Miss Duncan.
Emily,	Mrs. Edwin.
Mrs. Lewson,	Miss Tidswell.

In his preface, the author assures us that *Lost and Found* was written sixteen years ago, and that as it is his first production, so it will probably be his last. We do not intend to dispute the assertion of Mr. Masters, but it is impossible not to be struck with the resemblance of incidents and characters to those of many plays that have only lately attracted the notice of the public.

Sir Testy Supple is the very Sir Willoughby Worret who has already contributed to our amusement in *Man and Wife*, he is as he was before an irascible old fellow “warm but good-tempered,” completely governed by his rib, yet unwilling to acknowledge his subjection. It is extremely plain from the following passage that not merely the sentiment, but the language of one play is copied from the other. Whether Mr. Arnold or Mr. Mathews is the plagiarist remains to be determined.

“*Lady Supple.* Sir you are troublesome. (*Then apart to Sir Testy.*) I insist upon your giving him his dismissal:

*Sir Testy.* 'Tis your own doings—tell him yourself.

*Lady Supple.* Not I indeed. *Who should tell him but the MASTER of the family?*

*Sir Testy.* Very true—you are right my lady.

Again. *Bustle.* Be calm, Sir Testy, be calm.

*Sir Testy.* I won't be calm. Because a couple of domestic hornets are not enough to torment a man—I am to be teased to death by a gad-fly! Oh plague of your buzzing.

*Miss Supple.* Papa is a little warm.

*Bustle.* Apt to be so myself—but they are the best tempers in the world.

*Sir Testy.* So they are—so they are—I am warm, but good-tempered too. Ha! ha! ha! Well after all I believe you are my friend.

Mr. Wilnot returns to England in disguise, and discovers after many enquiries, that Old Ledger, to whom he had entrusted a considerable sum, for the education and support of his son *Charles Hastings*, has embezzled the money, and turned the young lieutenant adrift on the sea of life. Now this part of the fable differs only in the degree of cruelty it ascribes to old Ledger, from the foundation

of Mr. Cobb's Sudden Arrivals. The situation of Emily is exactly that of Miss Melfort; old Ledger is a second Beardmore, and Sir Frederick Flimsy has no character at all. The chief fault of the piece is mediocrity; its language can neither be blamed for inelegance, incorrectness, nor frigidity, but for the qualities opposite to these it is not remarkable. To every negativepraise it is confessedly entitled, but in a theatrical exhibition it is more desirable to be pleased at the expence of reason, than fatigued with the approbation of our judgment; and we would rather laugh at the injudicious extravagancies of a writer of genius, than tacitly approve the chaste but spiritless endeavours of such an inditer of plays as Mr. Masters.

At the present day, it is in the power of every man to whom fortune has granted a liberal education, and who is blest with the enjoyment of literary leisure, to *compile* a more elegant and classical comedy, than ever proceeded from the pen of Steele or Addison; it would be unjust, therefore, to estimate at any considerable value, productions of which the manufacture is so easy; but neither the advantages of education, nor of fortune will enable a dramatic author to astonish or delight. The favoured few who are gifted with the art of enchaining the attention of the indifferent, exhilarating the faculties of the gloomy, and exciting the emotion of the insensible, will always be distinguished by the public voice, above such *dramatic joiners* as the pupils of Hunt and the imitators of Cumberland. The lectures that we are continually doomed to hear on "nature, classicality, propriety, unity, consistency," and all the *et ceteras* that form a vocabulary of modern criticism, would, if they merely applied to productions intended for the closet, atone by their justice for their tediousness. But there are not three people in the theatre, who during the representation of a new performance, abstract themselves so far from the illusions of action and scenery, as to analyze the sentiments, and balance the probabilities of incident. A theatrical audience is not a deliberative assembly; its decision is rather the spontaneous impulse of the feelings, than the result of premeditated thought, and even the moral deductions of the multitude are not those which may be drawn from a systematic and refined analysis, but such as are impressed on the mind by the prominent features of the performance. From the comedy of the West Indian, a philosopher would derive the conclusion that the impetuosity of youth, or the warmth of a sanguine constitution, is rather an apology for error, than a source of happiness to its possessor; but a common spectator would retire from its performance with a profound contempt for the cold-blooded reserve of the English character, and with an involuntary detestation of all "the soft civilities of life."

The question of toleration is not, therefore, between the "unclassical writers of the day," and the acknowledged standards of legitimate excellence, but between the extravagants under the standard of Reynolds, and the inanimates marshalled by a veteran officer, whose march they follow, but whose early vigour nature has denied. When another Shakespeare shall arise he may claim our dotation, but, till the time of his appearance, let us be merry with Dibden, and suffer the ghosts of Lewis to drive away the blue devils that have been raised by the angels of Skeffington. A writer like Tobin, who combines taste with genius, and judgment with animation, can appear only once in the course of a critic's life, and since we have no alternative, we must be permitted to prefer extravagance to dullness.

That within the last twenty years, no dramatic production has appeared to be compared with the *School for Scandal*, or the *West Indian* may be admitted, but if legitimate plays be scarcer than they were, dull ones are less numerous. An author who should read the regular dramas which were exhibited on the stage, from the year 1740 to the year 1778, and then venture to compare the state of the theatricals at that period with their state at present, must either be a dulbert or a coxcomb.

The musical farce of the *Bee-hive* is worthy of considerable distinction above the other ephemeral trifles of the day. Mingle (Mr. Matthews) is master of an inn, at a village on the sea-shore. Miss Emily (Mrs. Mountain) is a young lady of handsome fortune, and destined by her family to be the spouse of Capt. Merton (Mr. Wrench) who is hourly expected from on board one of the ships that ride at anchor in the front of the *Bee-hive*. Anxious to observe the manners, and scrutinize the character of her future husband, while he is unconscious that his conduct is watched by one in whose good opinion he is so deeply interested, she assumes the name of Fairfax, and accompanied by her maid (Miss Kelly, but *last night* Miss Bew) she takes up a temporary residence at the inn. Shortly after, Captain Merton who has in consequence of pecuniary embarrassments changed his name to Sinclair, and Captain Rattan, are introduced into a room adjoining that of the young lady. They accidentally intrude on her privacy; in the interview to which the intrusion leads, she is captivated by the supposed *Sinclair's* person and manners. He discovers by accident, the deception that she is practising; and willing to punish her for her malicious curiosity, introduces his friend Rattan as Captain Merton. A ludicrous scene takes place, Rattan professes his attachment; the lady requests as a proof a specimen of his hand-writing, (for Merton and she had long carried on an amatory correspondence) Rattan is confounded, and Merton extricates him from his embarrassment, by confessing, with apparent reluctance, that, during his friend's resi-

dence abroad, he acted as his secretary. Miss *Fairfax* is of course extremely unhappy at this unexpected discovery, but scarcely have Merton and Rattan made their exit, the former *quizzing* the latter at the demonstrations of dislike on the part of the lady, before she is acquainted with their stratagem, and forms a scheme of revenge. When they return, she pretends to be quite overjoyed at the pretended Merton's arrival, acknowledges her love, and talks of arranging the marriage articles. The real Merton is distracted with jealousy, quarrels with his friend, and is about to proceed to very violent demonstrations of his passion, when his mistress relieves him from his distress.

Our readers will observe, that all this business leads to no particular end: as the introductory or incidental scenes of a regular piece, the *Bee-hive* might be represented with greater effect than as an independent trifle. In its present state, however, its merit is considerable: the dialogue is sprightly, the equivoques ludicrous, and the incidents probable; the only striking characters are Mingle the master of the Bee-Hive, a bustling, cunning, goodnatured, but roguish landlord, who has an apparent antipathy to prepositions and conjunctions, repeating only such words as are necessary to make his speech intelligible, yet talking with characteristic haste and volubility, and Rattan whose manners and language are intended to be perfectly *à la militaire*. The latter talks of being *shot perpendicularly* by the young lady's eyes, of taking refuge behind the *parapet* of resolution; of the passions making a *sortie*, and judgment beating the *generale*. This part of the dialogue is most wretchedly managed; to introduce an officer speaking of the "angle of love," or any other angle, being *parallel* to a "line," is to make him a downright ignoramus. Mingle's songs are somewhat in the style of "What is a woman like," in *Lock and Key*, but they are less witty, and more vulgar, and were sung by Mr. Matthews with so much rapidity, that it was impossible to listen to them with pleasure. Mrs. Mingle's language is mere plagiarism from the dialogue of the *Rivals*.

We would recommend the managers, the next time that they advertise a play to be sold in the theatre, to print it in a part of the bill where it is likely to be read. We have this moment discovered, that the farce is *published*. The substitution of Miss Bew last night for Miss Kelly, was by no means a change for the better. Mr. Russel made a blundering apology for Mrs. Mountain's *hoarseness*, but when she appeared, there were no symptoms of a cold; after she had sung a line or two, however, she thought proper to cough theatrically, and declare her inability to proceed. On the amorous ditties therefore, that we *ought to have heard*, it is out of our power to make any observations.

Wednesday, Jan. 30th, 1811.

TABLE II.  
A List of Quack Medicines, with their Effects, &c.

Name	Composition,	Advertised effects and diseases in which it is recommended as infallible.	Real effects, or effects of imprudent administration.	Sale price, inclusive of stamp.	Per	Prime cost, exclusive of stamp and bottle.
				L. S. D.		L. S. D.
1 Godfrey's Cordial	Treacle, Infusion of Sassafras, Tincture of Opium, Cochineal, Salt of Tartar. &c.	Diseases of Children.	Death.	0 0 7½	2 oz. bottle.	0 0 2
2 Barclay's Ointment	Hellebore Ointment.	<i>Caledonian Cremona.</i>	Useful and innocent.	0 2 9	2 oz. box.	0 0 2½
3 Lardner's Prepared Charcoal	Charcoal and Chalk.	For whitening the Teeth.	Useful, but not so much as common Charcoal.	0 2 9	Box.	1/10 of a farthing.
4 Lignum's Lotion	Sal-Ammoniac and water,	Diseases of the Skin.	Colic, Obstructions, Fever	0 2 9	Pint.	1/2 a farthing
5 Solomon's Anti-Impetigines	Solution of Corrosive Sublimite	Internally and externally Venereal Complaints. Externally likewise a Cosmetic.	Internally, Colic, Palsy, Death. Externally, Madness.	0 10 6	4 oz. bottle.	0 0 0½
6 Tasteless Ague Drop	Solution of Arsenic coloured with Spirit of Lavender,	Ague.	Colic, Palsy, Madness, Death.	1 6 0	4 oz. bottle.	0 0 1

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Battle Royal, or Which has it?



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# EXPLANATION

THOMAS HARRIS

On the Law of  
His Inconsistency  
Objections against  
Productions  
Indebted to  
Cajoles Mrs.  
Takes a House  
Lender  
Charge against  
Supported by  
Old Wine.  
Modes of pro  
terials  
Mrs. Hag  
former  
His Conduct  
Mrs. Blanford  
Letter

On the Lit  
Age  
The World  
public  
Lord Byron  
Edinburgh  
Lord B  
Services re  
Edinbur  
On Univer  
The Unive  
College B  
Discipline  
Classes of  
The Rewa  
Wrangler  
times  
Parr and  
Literatur  
Centu  
Improve  
Libe on  
" Hours  
A comp  
Lord B  
C  
Singula  
Mons. L